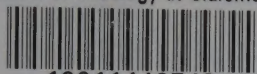


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JOURNAL

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1870-1882

OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church, South,

HELD IN MEMPHIS, 1870.

EDITED BY THOMAS O. SUMMERS, D.D.

Nashville, Tenn.:

PUBLISHING HOUSE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH.
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DELEGATES ELECT :

TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1870.

- BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: John S. Martin, Samuel Regester, Samuel S. Roszell, A. W. Wilson, J. H. Waugh, Wm. S. Baird, D. Ball. *Lay*: Jos. Hendrickson, E. W. Massey, T. J. Magruder, W. P. Conway, S. J. Bradley, A. L. Pitzer, T. E. Bond. *Clerical Reserves*: Wm. V. Tudor, E. F. Busey, Samuel Rodgers, James S. Gardner. *Lay Reserves*: J. H. Figgot, S. H. Williams, T. Berry, T. J. McCoy, J. F. Petherbridge, J. S. Carson, L. W. S. Hough..... 14
- VIRGINIA.—*Clerical*: Leroy M. Lee, James A. Duncan, John C. Granbery, William W. Bennett, Paul Whitehead, John E. Edwards, Peter A. Peterson. *Lay*: D'Arcy Paul, Thomas Whitehead, John R. Kilby, William M. Gill, Joseph C. Deming, Asa Snyder, Thomas W. Garrett. *Clerical Reserves*: Alexander G. Brown, George W. Langhorne, William B. Rowzie, Leonidas Rosser. *Lay Reserves*: Jefferson W. Stubbs, Jesse J. Yeates, John C. Blackwell, Levi D. Travers, Wm. D. Quisenberry, Stith M. Shepherd, Francis T. West..... 14
- WESTERN VIRGINIA.—*Clerical*: Stephen K. Vaught, Samuel T. Mallory. *Lay*: William C. Ireland, J. L. Carr. *Clerical Reserve*: Samuel H. Mullen. *Lay Reserve*: J. H. McCullough. 4
- NORTH CAROLINA.—*Clerical*: N. F. Reid, B. Craven, R. S. Moran, W. H. Bobbitt, Wm. Barringer. *Lay*: T. M. Jones, Wm. M. Robbins, S. D. Wallace, John W. Leak, J. C. Pinnix. *Clerical Reserves*: Chas. F. Deems, L. S. Burkhead, Wm. Closs. *Lay Reserves*: J. C. Slocum, W. A. Darden, jr., J. H. Selby..... 10
- SOUTH CAROLINA.—*Clerical*: Albert M. Shipp, H. A. C. Walker, Whitefoord Smith, William P. Mouzon, William H. Fleming, F. Milton Kennedy. *Lay*: William J. Montgomery, George W. Williams, A. A. Gilbert, H. T. Wright, James H. Carlisle, Simpson Bobo. *Clerical Reserves*: Sidi H. Browne, Abel M. Chrietzberg, John W. Kelly. *Lay Reserves*: John S. Moore, Benjamin Stokes, E. T. Rembert, R. F. Simpson, Thomas S. Moorman, Donald R. Barton..... 12
- SOUTH GEORGIA.—*Clerical*: Lovick Pierce, Samuel Anthony, Jas. E. Evans, E. H. Myers, Jos. S. Key. *Lay*: Jas. Jackson,

(147)

| | |
|---|----|
| Alfred H. Colquitt, Wm. I. Green, John J. Jones, Robert W. Lovett. <i>Clerical Reserves</i> : James W. Hinton, John B. McGehee, Osborne L. Smith. <i>Lay Reserves</i> : Michael Woodruff, Henry S. Wimberly, Timothy M. Furlow..... | 10 |
| NORTH GEORGIA.— <i>Clerical</i> : Jesse Boring, Wm. J. Parks, Weyman H. Potter, Wm. P. Harrison, Atticus G. Haygood, Alfred T. Mann. <i>Lay</i> : George N. Lester, Ignatius P. Garvin, Jas. E. Godfrey, Thomas M. Meriwether, Henry R. Harris, Louis D. Palmer. <i>Clerical Reserves</i> : Walter R. Branham, Habersham J. Adams, G. Jefferson Pearce. <i>Lay Reserves</i> : Wm. A. Turner, Chas. H. Johnson, Luther M. Smith, Wm. S. Thompson, John J. Floyd, Frank L. Little.. . | 12 |
| FLORIDA.— <i>Clerical</i> : Josephus Anderson, E. L. T. Blake. <i>Lay</i> : George W. Taylor, C. P. Crawford. <i>Clerical Reserves</i> : T. W. Moore, Sam. Woodberry. <i>Lay Reserves</i> : T. J. Perkins, S. L. Niblack..... | 4 |
| MONTGOMERY.— <i>Clerical</i> : O. R. Blue, Mark S. Andrews, John Mathews, W. A. McCarty, Wm. Shapard, J. B. Cottrell. <i>Lay</i> : Wm. H. Chambers, Wm. Garrett, J. E. Groce, R. H. Powell, J. P. Ralls, Wm. Lowther. <i>Clerical Reserves</i> : S. K. Cox, W. M. Motley, Wm. H. Ellison. <i>Lay Reserves</i> : J. R. Rogers, C. M. Howard, Thomas H. Dawson..... | 12 |
| MOBILE.— <i>Clerical</i> : Jeff. Hamilton, Thos. O. Summers, Allen S. Andrews, Archelaus H. Mitchell. <i>Lay</i> : Wm. M. Byrd, Wm. L. Lipscomb, A. W. Lampkin, J. R. John. <i>Clerical Reserves</i> : Josh. T. Heard, Thos. C. Wier, Simon P. Richardson. <i>Lay Reserves</i> : W. Bailey, S. A. Brown..... | 8 |
| LOUISIANA.— <i>Clerical</i> : John C. Keener, Nehemiah A. Cravens, Joseph D. Adams. <i>Lay</i> : Wm. F. Moreland, Wm. H. Foster, J. M. Ford. <i>Clerical Reserves</i> : Linus Parker, Samuel Armstrong. <i>Lay Reserves</i> : J. Harvey Brigham, John L. Scales, Henry G. Hall..... | 6 |
| MISSISSIPPI.— <i>Clerical</i> : Henderson H. Montgomery, William H. Watkins, Charles K. Marshall, William P. Barton, Richard Abbey. <i>Lay</i> : Thomas Reed, O. J. Moore, M. L. McGuire, Stephen Johnson, James E. Watts. <i>Clerical Reserves</i> : Harvey F. Johnson, C. Green Andrews, John G. Jones. <i>Lay Reserves</i> : Edwin G. Cook, Robert D. Howe, William L. Nugent, Leonard K. Barber, J. C. Kittrell..... | 10 |
| MEMPHIS.— <i>Clerical</i> : Thomas L. Boswell, George W. D. Harris, Guilford Jones, Smith W. Moore, A. B. Fly, Jos. H. Brooks, | |

- Findley Bynum, Wm. C. Johnson. *Lay*: Milton Brown, L. C. Garland, A. R. Boone, A. T. Scruggs, R. J. Morgan, W. H. Kilpatrick, W. D. Senter, David Whitaker. *Clerical Reserves*: A. C. Allen, John Moss, J. H. Witt. *Lay Reserves*: J. M. Mask, E. P. Randle, R. C. Clark 16
- TENNESSEE.—*Clerical*: John B. McFerrin, A. L. P. Green, John W. Hanner, Robert A. Young, Simon P. Whitten, Richard P. Ransom, Fountain E. Pitts, Adam S. Riggs. *Lay*: John F. House, William B. Wood, Thomas M. N. Jones, William F. Holder, Joseph B. Palmer, George G. Dibrell, Watson M. Cooke, J. W. Harris. *Clerical Reserves*: Thomas Maddin, Jos. B. West, John F. Hughes. *Lay Reserves*: A. S. Colyar, M. C. Baldrige, W. L. J. Wilkes, J. J. Dement, T. B. Miles. 16
- HOLSTON.—*Clerical*: Carrol Long, David Sullins, Ephraim E. Wiley, J. M. McTeer, Wm. G. E. Cunyngham. *Lay*: R. B. Vance, T. P. Thomas, F. W. Earnest, David Clegg, W. B. Aston. *Clerical Reserves*: R. N. Price, Wm. Hicks. *Lay Reserves*: G. A. Long, H. S. Bowen..... 10
- KENTUCKY.—*Clerical*: Charles W. Miller, Charles Taylor, Seneca X. Hall, Hiram P. Walker. *Lay*: J. A. Dawson, W. M. Leathers, J. A. Barnes, David Thornton. *Clerical Reserves*: George W. Merritt, Robert Hiner, Drummond Welburn, H. A. M. Henderson. *Lay Reserves*: J. M. Tipton, T. J. Overstreet, J. R. Beckley, J. Cochran..... 8
- LOUISVILLE.—*Clerical*: Albert H. Redford, N. H. Lee, Edmund W. Schon, David Morton. *Lay*: J. S. Lithgow, W. B. Machen, John C. Walker, Benj. F. Biggs. *Clerical Reserves*: William H. Anderson, T. C. Frogge. *Lay Reserves*: W. P. Fowler, S. T. Scott, C. F. Harvey, J. J. Barnett..... 8
- ST. LOUIS.—*Clerical*: David R. McAnally, William M. Prottsman, Thomas M. Finney, M. M. Pugh, W. M. Pitts. *Lay*: Trusten Polk, R. A. Hatcher, B. L. Riggins, J. M. Johnson, A. C. Mitchell. *Clerical Reserves*: J. A. Murphy, J. W. Lewis. *Lay Reserves*: M. M. Robinson, D. N. Burgoyne..... 10
- MISSOURI.—*Clerical*: William M. Rush, C. I. Vandeventer, Wm. M. Leftwich, B. H. Spencer, Andrew Monroe. *Lay*: J. O. Swinney, T. E. Thompson, James H. Birch, D. K. Pittman, Charles G. Epperson. *Clerical Reserves*: Patrick M. Pinckard, J. H. Pritchett. *Lay Reserves*: Allen H. Vories, James L. Davis 10
- ARKANSAS.—*Clerical*: John M. Steel, George A. Dannelly, James

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| Mackey. <i>Lay</i> : James Wickersham, Charles F. Harvey, Littleberry L. Mack. <i>Clerical Reserves</i> : John J. Roberts, Mortimer B. Pearson, William McMathis. <i>Lay Reserves</i> : G. W. Featherston, E. B. Keyte, Jerome Haroldson..... | 6 |
| LITTLE ROCK.— <i>Clerical</i> : Andrew Hunter, Horace Jewell, Augustus R. Winfield. <i>Lay</i> : W. T. Crouch, J. L. De Yampert, William W. Leake. <i>Clerical Reserves</i> : Robert S. Hunter, Marshal H. Wells. <i>Lay Reserves</i> : S. N. Marshall, Samuel E. Cole..... | 6 |
| INDIAN MISSION.— <i>Clerical</i> : John Harrell, Young Ewing. <i>Lay</i> : Willis Folsom, Saunders Choate. <i>Clerical Reserve</i> : J. C. Robinson. <i>Lay Reserve</i> : George Stidham..... | 4 |
| TEXAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : R. Alexander, Isaac G. John, J. W. Whipple. <i>Lay</i> : J. D. Giddings, J. S. Taliaferro, W. W. Browning. <i>Clerical Reserves</i> : B. T. Kavanaugh, H. V. Philpott. <i>Lay Reserves</i> : W. G. Webb, L. W. Moore..... | 6 |
| EAST TEXAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : L. P. Lively, Jeff. Shook. <i>Lay</i> : J. F. Taylor, M. H. Bonner. <i>Clerical Reserve</i> : N. W. Burks. <i>Lay Reserve</i> : L. B. Greer..... | 4 |
| TRINITY.— <i>Clerical</i> : R. Lane, J. M. Binkley. <i>Lay</i> : Asa Holt, W. J. Clark. <i>Clerical Reserves</i> : J. W. P. McKenzie, J. T. P. Irvine. <i>Lay Reserves</i> : J. R. Cole, W. H. Christian..... | 4 |
| NORTH-WEST TEXAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : Thomas Stanford, L. B. Whipple. <i>Lay</i> : J. R. Henry, R. Q. Mills. <i>Clerical Reserves</i> : J. S. McCarver, J. M. Jones. <i>Lay Reserves</i> : N. T. Sneed, P. A. Philpott..... | 4 |
| WEST TEXAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : R. H. Belvin, O. A. Fisher. <i>Lay</i> : W. Headen, D. A. T. Woods. <i>Clerical Reserve</i> : W. T. Thornberry. <i>Lay Reserve</i> : H. E. McCulloch..... | 4 |
| COLUMBIA.— <i>Clerical</i> : C. H. E. Newton, James W. Stahl. <i>Lay</i> : Silas J. Day, Leonidas McFarland. No Reserves..... | 4 |
| PACIFIC.— <i>Clerical</i> : Orceneth Fisher, Thomas C. Barton, E. K. Miller. <i>Lay</i> : William T. Rucker, W. E. Cocke, William R. Bain. <i>Clerical Reserve</i> : George Sim. <i>Lay Reserve</i> : J. M. Swinford..... | 6 |
| ILLINOIS.— <i>Clerical</i> : Middleton R. Jones, Rumsey Smithson. <i>Lay</i> : John Allsop, William J. Ballard. <i>Clerical Reserves</i> : J. W. Westcott, Daniel T. Sherman. <i>Lay Reserves</i> : James M. Charlton, J. M. A. Drake..... | 4 |

Total..... 246

MEMBERS

OF THE

Sixth General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

| | |
|---|----|
| BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical</i> : John S. Martin, Samuel Regester, Samuel S. Roszell, A. W. Wilson, Wm. S. Baird, Dabney Ball, W. V. Tudor—7. <i>Lay</i> : Jos. Hendrickson, E. W. Massey, T. J. Magruder, W. P. Conway, S. J. Bradley, T. E. Bond, T. J. McCoy—7..... | 14 |
| VIRGINIA.— <i>Clerical</i> : Leroy M. Lee, John C. Granbery, William W. Bennett, Paul Whitehead, John E. Edwards, Peter A. Peterson, Alex. G. Brown—7. <i>Lay</i> : D'Arcy Paul, Thomas Whitehead, William M. Gill, Joseph C. Deming, Asa Snyder, Thomas W. Garrett, Levi D. Travers—7..... | 14 |
| WESTERN VIRGINIA.— <i>Clerical</i> : Stephen K. Vaught, Samuel T. Mallory—2. <i>Lay</i> : William C. Ireland—1..... | 3 |
| NORTH CAROLINA.— <i>Clerical</i> : N. F. Reid, B. Craven, R. S. Moran, W. H. Bobbitt, Wm. Barringer—5. <i>Lay</i> : T. M. Jones, John W. Leak, J. C. Pinnix, J. C. Slocum—4 | 9 |
| SOUTH CAROLINA.— <i>Clerical</i> : Albert M. Shipp, H. A. C. Walker, Whitefoord Smith, William P. Mouzon, William H. Fleming, F. Milton Kennedy—6. <i>Lay</i> : William J. Montgomery, Geo. W. Williams, A. A. Gilbert, H. T. Wright, Simpson Bobo, Thomas S. Moorman—6..... | 12 |
| SOUTH GEORGIA.— <i>Clerical</i> : Lovick Pierce, Samuel Anthony, Jas. E. Evans, E. H. Myers, Jos. S. Key—5. <i>Lay</i> : Jas. Jackson, Alfred H. Colquitt, Wm. I. Green, Robert W. Lovett, Henry S. Wimberly—5 | 10 |
| NORTH GEORGIA.— <i>Clerical</i> : Jesse Boring, Wm. J. Parks, Weyman H. Potter, Wm. P. Harrison, Atticus G. Haygood, Alfred T. Mann—6. <i>Lay</i> : George N. Lester, Ignatius P. Garvin, Thomas N. Meriwether, Louis D. Palmer, Luther M. Smith—5..... | 11 |
| FLORIDA.— <i>Clerical</i> : T. W. Moore—1. <i>Lay</i> : George W. Taylor—1..... | 2 |
| MONTGOMERY.— <i>Clerical</i> : O. R. Blue, Mark S. Andrews, John | |

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|---|----|
| Mathews, W. A. McCarty, Wm. Shapard, J. B. Cottrell—6. <i>Lay</i> : J. E. Groce, R. H. Powell, J. P. Ralls, Wm. Lowther, J. R. Rogers, C. M. Howard—6..... | 12 |
| MOBILE.— <i>Clerical</i> : Jeff. Hamilton, Thos. O. Summers, Allen S. Andrews, Archelaus H. Mitchell—4. <i>Lay</i> : Wm. M. Byrd, Wm. L. Lipscomb, A. W. Lampkin, J. R. John—4..... | 8 |
| LOUISIANA.— <i>Clerical</i> : John C. Keener, Nehemiah A. Cravens, Joseph D. Adams—3. <i>Lay</i> : Wm. H. Foster, Henry G. Hall—2..... | 5 |
| MISSISSIPPI.— <i>Clerical</i> : Henderson H. Montgomery, William H. Watkins, Charles K. Marshall, William P. Barton, Richard Abbey—5. <i>Lay</i> : Thomas Reed, O. J. Moore, M. L. Mc- Guire, James E. Watts—4..... | 9 |
| MEMPHIS.— <i>Clerical</i> : Thomas L. Boswell, Guilford Jones, Smith W. Moore, A. B. Fly, Jos. H. Brooks, Findley Bynum, Wm. C. Johnson, A. C. Allen—8. <i>Lay</i> : Milton Brown, L. C. Gar- land, A. R. Boone, A. T. Scruggs, R. J. Morgan, W. H. Kilpatrick, W. D. Senter, David Whitaker—8. J. M. Mask, lay Reserve, substituted A. R. Boone and L. C. Garland parts of the session..... | 16 |
| TENNESSEE.— <i>Clerical</i> : John B. McFerrin, A. L. P. Green, John W. Hanner, Robert A. Young, Simon P. Whitten, Richard P. Ransom, Fountain E. Pitts, Adam S. Riggs—8. <i>Lay</i> : Wil- liam B. Wood, Thomas M. N. Jones, William F. Holder, Joseph B. Palmer, George G. Dibrell, J. W. Harris, M. C. Baldrige, J. J. Dement—8. Thos. Maddin, clerical Reserve, substituted John B. McFerrin and F. E. Pitts parts of the session; W. L. J. Wilkes, lay Reserve, substituted G. G. Dib- rell a part of the session..... | 16 |
| HOLSTON.— <i>Clerical</i> : Carrol Long, David Sullins, Ephraim E. Wiley, J. M. McTeer, Wm. G. E. Cunningham—5. <i>Lay</i> : T. P. Thomas, F. W. Earnest—2..... | 7 |
| KENTUCKY.— <i>Clerical</i> : Charles W. Miller, Charles Taylor, Seneca X. Hall, Hiram P. Walker—4. <i>Lay</i> : J. A. Dawson, W. M. Leathers, Joshua A. Barnes, David Thornton—4. H. A. M. Henderson, clerical Reserve, substituted C. W. Miller a part of the session..... | 8 |
| LOUISVILLE.— <i>Clerical</i> : Albert H. Redford, N. H. Lee, Edmund W. Schon, David Morton—4. <i>Lay</i> : J. S. Lithgow, W. B. Machen, Benj. F. Biggs, S. T. Scott—4. C. F. Harvey, lay Reserve, substituted S. T. Scott, Reserve in place of John C. | |

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| Walker, a part of the session; W. H. Anderson, clerical delegate, substituted N. H. Lee a part of the session..... | 8 |
| ST. LOUIS.— <i>Clerical</i> : David R. McAnally, William M. Prottzman, Thomas M. Finney, M. M. Pugh, W. M. Pitts—5. <i>Lay</i> : Trusten Polk, R. A. Hatcher, A. C. Mitchell, D. N. Burgoyne—4..... | 9 |
| MISSOURI.— <i>Clerical</i> : William M. Rush, C. I. Vandeventer, Wm. M. Leftwich, B. H. Spencer, Andrew Monroe—5. <i>Lay</i> : J. O. Swinney, T. E. Thompson, James H. Birch, D. K. Pittman, Charles G. Epperson—5 | 10 |
| ARKANSAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : John M. Steel, George A. Dannelly, James Mackey—3. <i>Lay</i> : James Wickersham, Charles F. Harvey, Littleberry L. Mack—3..... | 6 |
| LITTLE ROCK.— <i>Clerical</i> : Andrew Hunter, Horace Jewell, Augustus R. Winfield—3. <i>Lay</i> : W. T. Crouch, J. L. De Yampert—2..... | 5 |
| INDIAN MISSION.— <i>Clerical</i> : John Harrell, Young Ewing—2. <i>Lay</i> : Willis Folsom—1 | 3 |
| TEXAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : R. Alexander, Isaac G. John, J. W. Whipple—3. <i>Lay</i> : J. D. Giddings, W. W. Browning—2..... | 5 |
| EAST TEXAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : L. P. Lively, Jeff. Shook—2. <i>Lay</i> : J. F. Taylor—1..... | 3 |
| TRINITY.— <i>Clerical</i> : R. Lane, J. M. Binkley—2. <i>Lay</i> : Asa Holt, W. J. Clark—2..... | 4 |
| NORTH-WEST TEXAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : Thomas Stanford, L. B. Whipple—2. <i>Lay</i> : J. R. Henry, R. Q. Mills—2. J. S. McCarver, clerical Reserve, substituted Thos. Stanford a part of the session | 4 |
| WEST TEXAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : R. H. Belvin, O. A. Fisher—2. <i>Lay</i> : W. Headen, D. A. T. Woods—2 | 4 |
| COLUMBIA.—No Delegate present. | |
| PACIFIC.— <i>Clerical</i> : Orceneth Fisher, Thomas C. Barton, E. K. Miller—3. <i>Lay</i> : William T. Rucker, W. E. Cocke, John M. Swinford—3..... | 6 |
| ILLINOIS.— <i>Clerical</i> : Middleton R. Jones, Rumsey Smithson—2. <i>Lay</i> : James M. Charlton—1..... | 3 |
| Total (clerical 120, lay 106)..... | 226 |

JOURNAL
OF THE
General Conference
OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH,
MAY 4—MAY 26, 1870.

THE Sixth General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was held in the Court Street Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Memphis, Tenn., beginning Wednesday, May 4, 1870.

All the Bishops were present, except Bishop Early, who was prevented from attendance by age and infirmities.

The session was opened by Bishop Paine, by singing Hymn 259,

Draw near, O Son of God, draw near—

after which Bishop Kavanaugh led in prayer. Bishop Pierce then read Isaiah lxii., and Bishop Wightman, Acts xx. 17-38. Bishop Doggett then announced Hymn 264,

How rich thy bounty, King of kings.

After singing the Hymn, Andrew Monroe led in prayer.

Bishop Paine took the chair, and called upon the Secretary of the last General Conference, to call the list of the Annual Conferences, and vouchers for the delegates elect were furnished.

The following delegates, being present, responded to their names, and took their seats accordingly, to wit:

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: John S. Martin, Sam'l Register, S. S. Roszell, W. S. Baird. *Lay*: Jos. Hendrickson, E. W. Massey.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Paul Whitehead, Peter A. Peterson. *Lay*: Levi D. Travers, Reserve in place of John R. Kilby.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Samuel T. Mallory.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: N. F. Reid, B. Craven, R. S. Moran, W. H. Bobbitt, Wm. Barringer. *Lay*: T. M. Jones, John W. Leak, J. C. Pinnix, J. C. Slocum, Reserve in place of S. D. Wallace.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Albert M. Shipp, H. A. C. Walker, Whitefoord Smith, Wm. P. Mouzon, Wm. H. Fleming, F. Milton Kennedy. *Lay*: Wm. J. Montgomery, George W. Williams, A. A. Gilbert, H. T. Wright, Simpson Bobo, Thos. S. Moorman, Reserve in place of James H. Carlisle.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: James E. Evans, E. H. Myers, Joseph S. Key. *Lay*: James Jackson, Wm. I. Green, Robert W. Lovett, Henry S. Wimberly, Reserve in place of John J. Jones.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Jesse Boring, Wm. J. Parks, Weyman H. Potter, Wm. P. Harrison, Atticus G. Haygood, Alfred T. Mann. *Lay*: George N. Lester, Ignatius P. Garvin, Thos. M. Meriwether, Wm. A. Turner, Reserve in place of Henry R. Harris, Luther M. Smith, Reserve in place of Jas. E. Godfrey.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: T. W. Moore, Reserve in place of E. L. T. Blake. *Lay*: George W. Taylor.

MONTGOMERY CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Mark S. Andrews, W. A. McCarty, Wm. Shapard, J. B. Cottrell. *Lay*: J. E. Groce, R. H. Powell, J. R. Rogers, Reserve in place of Wm. H. Chambers.

MOBILE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Jeff. Hamilton, Thos. O. Summers, A. S. Andrews, A. H. Mitchell. *Lay*: W. M. Byrd, J. R. John.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: John C. Keener, N. A. Cravens, J. D. Adams. *Lay*: Henry G. Hall, Reserve in place of J. M. Ford.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Henderson H. Montgomery, Wm. P. Barton, Richard Abbey. *Lay*: O. J. Moore, M. L. McGuire, James E. Watts.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Thomas L. Boswell, Guilford Jones, Smith W. Moore, A. B. Fly, Joseph H. Brooks, Findley Bynum, Wm. C. Johnson. *Lay*: Landon C. Garland, R. J. Morgan, W. H. Kilpatrick, W. D. Senter, David Whitaker.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: John B. McFerrin, Alex. L. P. Green, John W. Hanner, Robert A. Young, Simon P. Whitten, Richard P. Ransom, Fountain E. Pitts, Adam S. Riggs. *Lay*: W. B. Wood, Thomas M. N. Jones, Geo. G. Dibrell.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Carrol Long, David Sullins, Ephraim E. Wiley, J. M. McTeer, Wm. G. E. Cunyningham. *Lay*: T. P. Thomas, F. W. Earnest.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Charles W. Miller, Charles Taylor, Seneca X. Hall, Hiram P. Walker. *Lay*: J. A. Dawson, W. M. Leathers, David Thornton.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Albert H. Redford, N. H. Lee, Edmund W. Schon, David Morton. *Lay*: J. S. Lithgow, Benj. F. Biggs.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: W. M. Prottzman, M. M. Pugh, W. M. Pitts. *Lay*: R. A. Hatcher, A. C. Mitchell, N. Burgoyne, Reserve in place of B. L. Riggs.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Wm. M. Rush, C. I. Vandeventer, W. M. Leftwich, B. H. Spencer, Andrew Monroe. *Lay*: T. E. Thompson, James H. Birch, D. K. Pitman.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: John M. Steel, George A. Dannelly, James Mackey. *Lay*: James Wickersham, Charles F. Harvey, Littlebury L. Mack.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Andrew Hunter, Horace Jewell, Augustus R. Winfield. *Lay*: W. T. Crouch.

INDIAN MISSION CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: John Harrell, Young Ewing. *Lay*: Willis Folsom.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: R. Alexander, Isaac G. John. *Lay*: W. W. Browning.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: L. P. Lively, Jeff. Shook, *Lay*: J. F. Taylor.

TRINITY CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: R. Lane, J. M. Binkley. *Lay*: Asa Holt, W. J. Clark.

NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Thomas Stanford, L. B. Whipple. *Lay*: J. R. Henry, R. Q. Mills.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: R. H. Belvin, O. A. Fisher. *Lay*: D. A. T. Woods.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Orceneth Fisher, E. K. Miller. *Lay*: Wm. T. Rucker, W. E. Cocke.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Middleton R. Jones, Rumsey Smithson. *Lay*: Jas. M. Charlton, Reserve in place of John Allsop.

There being 168 members present, constituting more than a quorum, the Bishop announced that the first thing in order was the election of a Secretary and Assistant Secretaries.

On motion of H. A. C. Walker, Thomas O. Summers, of the Mobile Conference, was chosen Secretary; John S. Martin, of the Baltimore Conference, James Wickersham, of the Arkansas Conference, and George N. Lester, of the North Georgia Conference, were chosen Assistant Secretaries.

On motion of W. Smith, Rule 1 of the Rules of Order of 1866 was amended by substituting one o'clock for twelve.

On motion of R. S. Moran, Rule 17 of the Rules of Order was amended by the insertion of the words "two-thirds of" after the words "majority of."

The Rules of Order of the Conference of 1866, as amended, were adopted.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the following Standing Committees, to consist of one member from each Annual Conference, each delegation to appoint its own members on said committees, were ordered :

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. On Episcopacy. | 5. On Missions. |
| 2. On Itinerancy. | 6. On Revisal. |
| 3. On Books and Periodicals. | 7. On Sunday-schools. |
| 4. On Boundaries. | 8. On Education. |
| 9. On the Religious Interests of the Colored People. | |

On motion of P. A. Peterson, John Moss, E. C. Slater, L. D. Mullins, W. M. Patterson, N. H. Thomas, D. R. S. Rosebrough, Guilford Jones, R. J. Morgan, S. Watson, were appointed a Committee on Public Worship.

Bishop McTyeire, Chairman of the Committee on the Reàrrangement of the Discipline, appointed by the General Conference of 1866, presented a report in printed form, a copy of which was given to each member of the Conference.

A. H. Redford, Agent of the Publishing House, laid on the table his Quadrennial Exhibit in printed form.

The Conference then adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Thursday Morning, May 5, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Paine in the chair.

Bishop Andrew conducted divine service, by reading John xvii., singing Hymn 261,

High on his everlasting throne,

and offering a fervent prayer at the throne of grace.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop Pierce took the chair.

The following delegates, who were not present yesterday, responded to their names, and took their seats, to wit :

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. W. Wilson, Dabney Ball, W. V. Tudor, Reserve in place of J. H. Waugh. *Lay*: T. J. Magruder,

W. Peyton Conway, Stephen J. Bradley, T. J. McCoy, Reserve in place of A. L. Pitzer.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Leroy M. Lee, John C. Granbery, Wm. W. Bennett, John E. Edwards, Alex. G. Brown, Reserve in place of James A. Duncan. *Lay*: D'Arey Paul, Thomas Whitehead, Wm. M. Gill, Joseph C. Deming, Thomas W. Garrett.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Stephen K. Vaught. *Lay*: Wm. C. Ireland.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Lovick Pierce, Samuel Anthony. *Lay*: Alfred H. Colquitt.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Wm. H. Watkins. *Lay*: Thomas Reed.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: Milton Brown, J. M. Mask, Reserve in place of A. R. Boone.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: David R. McAnally. *Lay*: Truaten Polk.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: Charles G. Epperson.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. W. Whipple.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: O. A. Fisher.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Thomas C. Barton.

The lower end of the third window was made the bar of the house.

The following members were reported by the several delegations, as members of the Standing Committees:

STANDING COMMITTEES.

| CONFERENCES. | EPISCOPACY. | ITINERANCY. | BOOKS AND PERIODICALS. |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Baltimore, | S. Regester, | J. S. Martin, | E. W. Massey, |
| Virginia, | Leroy M. Lee, | John E. Edwards, | J. C. Deming, |
| Western Virginia, | S. K. Vaught, | S. T. Mallory, | W. C. Ireland, |
| North Carolina, | N. F. Reid, | R. S. Moran, | T. M. Jones, |
| South Carolina, | H. A. C. Walker, | W. P. Mouzon, | Geo. W. Williams, |
| South Georgia, | E. H. Myers, | S. Anthony, | W. I. Green, |
| North Georgia, | W. J. Parks, | Alfred T. Mann, | W. P. Harrison, |
| Florida, | J. Anderson, | T. J. Perkins, | G. W. Taylor, |
| Montgomery, | O. R. Blue, | J. B. Cottrell, | Wm. Shapard, |
| Mobile, | W. M. Byrd, | A. S. Andrews, | W. L. Lipscomb, |
| Louisiana, | J. C. Keener, | N. A. Cravens, | H. G. Hall, |
| Mississippi, | C. K. Marshall, | M. L. McGuire, | R. Abbey, |
| Memphis, | Milton Brown, | Thos. L. Boswell, | Wm. C. Johnson, |
| Tennessee, | Fountain E. Pitts, | S. P. Whitten, | A. L. P. Green, |
| Holston, | E. E. Wiley, | D. Sullins, | T. P. Thomas, |
| Kentucky, | C. W. Miller, | H. P. Walker, | S. X. Hall, |
| Louisville, | A. H. Redford, | N. H. Lee, | J. S. Litigow, |
| St. Louis, | Truaten Polk, | W. M. Protsman, | T. M. Finney, |
| Missouri, | A. Monroe, | C. I. Vandeventer, | W. M. Rush, |
| Arkansas, | J. M. Steel, | J. Mackey, | C. F. Harvey, |
| Little Rock, | Andrew Hunter, | H. Jewell, | A. B. Winfield, |
| Indian Mission, | J. Harrell, | Y. Ewing, | Y. Ewing, |
| Texas, | R. Alexander, | I. G. John, | J. W. Whipple, |
| East Texas, | Jeff. Shook, | J. F. Taylor, | J. F. Taylor, |
| Trinity, | R. Lane, | J. M. Binkley, | W. J. Clark, |
| North-west Texas, | Thomas Stanford, | L. B. Whipple, | J. R. Henry, |
| West Texas, | R. H. Belvin, | O. A. Fisher, | Wm. Headen, |
| Pacific, | O. Fisher, | E. K. Miller, | T. C. Barton, |
| Illinois. | R. Smithson, | M. R. Jones, | M. R. Jones, |

| CONFERENCES. | BOUNDARIES. | MISSIONS. | REVISAL. |
|---|--|---|---|
| Baltimore, Virginia, Western Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, South Georgia, North Georgia, Florida, Montgomery, Mobile, Louisiana, Mississippi, Memphis, Tennessee, Holston, Kentucky, Louisville, St. Louis, Missouri, Arkansas, Little Rock, Indian Mission, Texas, East Texas, Trinity, North-west Texas, West Texas, Pacific, Illinois. | D. Ball, P. Whitehead, S. T. Mallory, W. H. Bobbitt, W. J. Montgomery, H. S. Wimberly, W. H. Potter, G. W. Taylor, W. A. McCarty, A. H. Mitchell, N. A. Cravens, H. H. Montgomery, A. B. Fly, W. B. Wood, J. M. McTeer, W. M. Lenthers, B. F. Biggs, D. M. Pitts, W. K. Pitman, J. M. Steel, A. R. Winfield, W. Folsom, R. Alexander, L. P. Lively, R. Lane, Thomas Stanford, R. H. Belvin, W. T. Rucker, Jas. Charlton. | W. P. Conway, A. G. Brown, W. C. Ireland, J. W. Leak, A. A. Gilbert, R. H. Lovett, Jesse Boring, T. W. Moore, J. E. Groce, T. O. Summers, J. C. Keener, Thos. Reed, J. H. Brooks, R. A. Young, W. G. E. Cunningham, D. Thornton, W. B. Machen, M. M. Pugh, W. M. Lettwich, C. F. Harvey, S. E. Cole, J. Harrell, J. W. Whipple, J. W. Shook, W. J. Clark, R. Q. Mills, R. H. Belvin, W. E. Cook, R. Smithson. | W. S. Baird, P. A. Peterson, S. K. Vaught, W. Baringer, Whitford Smith, J. S. Key, George N. Lester, J. Anderson, M. S. Andrews, J. Hamilton, J. D. Adams, W. P. Barton, Guilford Jones, J. W. Hanner, C. Long, C. W. Miller, David Morton, D. R. McAnally, B. H. Spencer, G. A. Dannelly, Andrew Hunter, Y. Ewing, I. G. John, Jeff. Shook, Asa Holt, R. Q. Mills, O. A. Fisher, O. Fisher, M. R. Jones. |

| CONFERENCES. | SUNDAY-SCHOOLS. | EDUCATION. | COLORED PEOPLE. |
|---|---|--|--|
| Baltimore, Virginia, Western Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, South Georgia, North Georgia, Florida, Montgomery, Mobile, Louisiana, Mississippi, Memphis, Tennessee, Holston, Kentucky, Louisville, St. Louis, Missouri, Arkansas, Little Rock, Indian Mission, Texas, East Texas, Trinity, North-west Texas, West Texas, Pacific, Illinois. | T. J. Magruder, Asa Snyder, S. T. Mallory, J. C. Pinnix, Simpson Bobo, J. Jackson, A. G. Haygood, T. W. Perkins, J. Mathews, A. W. Lampkin, W. H. Foster, J. E. Watts, Flandely Bynum, G. G. Dibrell, F. W. Earnest, Jas. A. Dawson, J. C. Walker, D. N. Burgoyne, T. E. Thompson, James Wickersham, W. T. Crouch, J. Harrell, J. D. Giddings, L. P. Lively, J. M. Binkley, J. R. Henry, D. A. T. Woods, J. M. Charlton. | W. V. Tudor, John C. Granbery, W. C. Ireland, B. Craven, A. M. Shipp, A. H. Colquitt, L. M. Smith, T. W. Moore, J. R. Rogers, J. R. John, H. G. Hall, W. H. Watkins, Landon C. Garland, R. P. Ransom, E. E. Wiley, Charles Taylor, E. W. Sehon, R. A. Hatcher, J. H. Birch, L. L. Mack, J. L. De Yampert, W. Folsom, J. D. Giddings, J. F. Taylor, Asa Holt, L. B. Whipple, Wm. Henden, E. R. Miller, R. Smithson. | S. J. Bradley, Thomas Whitehead, S. K. Vaught, J. C. Slocum, Wm. H. Fleming, J. E. Evans, T. N. Meriwether, T. W. Moore, R. H. Powell, W. L. Lipscomb, J. D. Adams, E. G. Cooke, S. W. Moore, J. B. McFerrin, C. Long, Joshua Barnes, E. W. Sehon, A. C. Mitchell, J. O. Swinney, G. A. Dannelly, Horace Jewell, Y. Ewing, W. W. Browning, L. P. Lively, J. M. Binkley, Thomas Stanford, D. A. T. Woods, T. C. Barton, J. M. Charlton. |

[The Columbia Conference had no delegates present during the session.]

A. G. Brown brought a message from the venerable Bishop Early, expressing a hope that he might be present during a part of the session, praying the divine blessing on the Conference, and assuring it that amid all his afflictions he was sustained by the gracious providence of God. The Conference received the message with great interest.

A communication from D. C. Jones, on behalf of the pastor and officers of the "Christian Church" in Memphis, offering to the Conference the use of their pulpit on each Lord's day during the session, was received, read, and referred to the Committee on Public Worship.

On motion of J. Boring, a committee of six, on Orphans' Homes, was ordered to be appointed by the Bishop.

On motion of A. H. Redford, a committee of six, on a Sunday-school Hymn and Tune-book, was ordered to be appointed by the Bishop.

A. R. Winfield moved the appointment of a committee of thirteen on Temperance, which was not ordered.

H. H. Montgomery moved the appointment of one lay member from each delegation, as a Committee on Finance, which was ordered.

On motion of J. B. Cottrell, the vote was reconsidered, and on motion of A. M. Shipp, it was ordered that a Committee on Finance be appointed, to be constituted of one member from each delegation, to be chosen by the delegations respectively.

The Address of the Bishops was then read by Bishop Wightman, as follows :

ADDRESS OF THE BISHOPS.

BELOVED BRETHREN :—We would join you in devout thanksgiving to God that another quadrennial session of your body has occurred. Representing, as you do, all parts of our wide field of labor, conversant with their conditions and wants, and invested with authority over the whole Church, we beg respectfully to remind you of the importance of prayerful, vigilant, and impartial attention to the duties of your delicate and responsible position. We trust that the subjects which may be brought before you will be discussed and decided as in the immediate presence of God, and with direct reference to the welfare of the whole Church.

With profound emotion we announce to you that since your last session our venerable and beloved colleague, JOSHUA SOULE, has departed this life. His death occurred in Nashville, Tenn., March 6, 1867, in the 86th year of his life, and the 68th year of his itinerant ministry. In many respects Bishop Soule was a remarkable man. At the time of his death he was, probably, the oldest traveling preacher in America, if not in the world; and was thus the connecting link between the Methodism of Wesley and Asbury and that of the present day. Throughout his whole ministerial life he was eminently devoted to God, and employed exclusively in the service of the Church; often filling positions of the highest responsibility, and always honorably and usefully. His mind was clear and vigorous, his deportment dignified, and his whole course was marked by consistency, purity, and unswerving fidelity to principle. Whether viewed as a man, a Christian, or a minister, or as filling the highest office in the Church for forty-three years, his character deserves to be held in the highest esteem, and his mem-

ory to be perpetuated in the history of the Church. We devoutly thank God for such a man, and for the gifts and grace which rendered his eventful life so useful, his declining years and closing day so beautifully serene, so sublimely triumphant.

The past four years have abounded with trials to the Church you represent, especially in those portions of the country which suffered most by military devastation during the late war, and by ecclesiastical interference with our Church-property. But it is matter of devout gratitude that poverty and persecution—even unto stripes and death, in some cases—have only tested and increased the attachment and fidelity of our ministers, and the general body of our membership, to the Church. The itinerant preachers, although very meagerly supported, have, in general, been faithful to their ordination vows, and have persevered, as best they could, in performing their duties. By the blessing of God this has resulted in the maintenance of our itinerant system, and the steady and increasing prosperity of all the enterprises of the Church. Even where we had suffered most we are rapidly regaining our former ground, and in many sections extending our borders and multiplying our membership. Seasons of refreshment from the presence of the Lord have come upon the people, and thousands have been converted and added to the Church.

We rejoice, also, to report that the greatest unity and harmony exist throughout the whole Connection. It has been truly said that “Methodists, all over the world, are one in doctrine;” so that, however widely scattered and differing in other respects, they present the peculiarity of agreeing cordially in the great doctrines of Christianity. And as the members of our Communion are a unit in faith, so also there is scarcely any disagreement among them as to our Church-polity. Their prevalent desire is that both be preserved—the former intact; the latter, if altered at all, to be modified so far only as to make it more effective in accomplishing the original purposes of Methodism. This is seen in the fact that we have quietly passed what is justly regarded in all forms of government a great crisis, in the adoption of a new element into our system. We allude to the introduction of Lay Representation into the Annual and General Conferences. This important change in our economy was not a peace-offering, rendered necessary for the preservation of the unity and peace of the Church, from the attacks of a dissatisfied and refractory membership, but was proposed and effected by the nearly unanimous voice of the ministry, and the acquiescence of the laity—both believing that the time had fully come when it would enhance the effectiveness of the Church and the glory of Christ.

In attestation of the approval of the whole Church of this measure, we are gratified to see in this body so large a number of Lay Delegates, representing the intelligence, piety, and strength of the Connection. We are sure that we express the feelings of their clerical associates, and of the entire Church, in welcoming them to their seats; and we shall gladly share with them the labors and responsibilities of this chief council of the Church.

It may not be amiss in this connection to suggest that excessive legislation is too common in all deliberative bodies. Laws and usages, generally understood and approved, should not be changed hastily; or, if changed at all, only from a conviction of the greater utility of the change. Nor is it prudent to alter even a recent enactment until it is practically demonstrated to be necessary to do so. This caution we would respectfully apply to the regulations under which Lay Representation has been introduced. Would it not be judicious to learn by experience what modifications, if any, may be necessary, rather than risk the success of the system by hasty attempts to improve it?

The efficiency of the Church of Christ must result from his gifts and grace, and the General Conference can reasonably expect to do but little to increase it by merely prudential means, except as these tend to increase its *spiritual life*. It is your first duty, therefore, to ascertain the real condition of the Church in this respect, in order to correct what may be wrong, and supply what may be needed for this great end. Your attention is earnestly invited to a careful examination into its spiritual state, and of the means and measures likely to contribute to this, its highest, most vital interest.

Without intending a disparaging comparison between the piety of the present day, and that of our fathers in the early days of Methodism, we feel it right to say that we are deficient as to several matters which were formerly regarded as aids and tests of Methodistic piety. We allude, especially, to the neglect of class and prayer-meetings; of fasting and abstinence; of family and secret prayer; and the indulgence in worldly pleasures. In some, if not all of these things, we fear our people, not to say our preachers, too, fall below the pattern set us by the piety of our fathers in other days. We do not mean that this declension is universal, but gladly admit that there are large numbers who exhibit the ancient marks of Methodistic piety in an intelligent and ardent devotion to God, and in firm attachment to our doctrines and discipline. The action of the last General Conference, modifying the rule on class-meetings, so that attending them should not be a condition of Church-membership, has been construed, unfortunately, by

some, as abolishing them. We do not so understand it; and we regard these meetings to be so promotive of the spiritual prosperity of the Church, and so essential to the efficient working of our economy, that we are very reluctant to see them fall, in any measure, into disuse. While attendance upon these meetings is not a condition of membership, yet we do not consider that pastors have been released from the appointment and oversight of leaders, classes, and at least a quarterly visitation and report. We recommend to the General Conference the consideration of this subject in connection with a pastor's duty.

We invite your attention specially to the subject of family religion and the Christian training of children. Its importance cannot be overestimated. Regular family worship, morning and night, accompanied with the consecutive reading of the Scriptures, is so morally fit, reasonable, and salutary, that to us it seems strange that the heads of Christian families can feel guiltless in neglecting it. While we rejoice in the greatly increased interest exhibited in behalf of Sunday-schools, we are sure that there can be no substitute for religious training in the family. The impress, whether for good or evil, made by family instruction and example, is indelible. In the home-circle is found a domestic and patriarchal Church, the training-school of the kingdom of Christ, the pledge and foretaste of the bliss of the kingdom above.

Indulgence in worldly and fashionable diversions is another great enemy of earnest piety, which is invading the Church, and threatening to estrange our children from us. Dancing, in particular, whatever plausible excuses may be pleaded for it, is destructive to the growth, not to say the very existence, of spiritual religion in those who delight to indulge in it. Generally, it is a species of "reveling" condemned and forbidden by the word of God; and its tendency is evil only.

In immediate connection with the spiritual welfare of the Church, the great and only effectual remedy for most, if not all, of our deficiencies as a Christian people, is an increase of inward, genuine, scriptural holiness. We fear that the doctrine of perfect love, which casts out fear and purifies the heart, and is the "measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ," as taught in the Bible, and explained and enforced in our standards, as a distinct and practicable attainment, is too much overlooked and neglected. This was a prominent theme in the discourses of our fathers; and alike in their private conversations as in their public ministrations, they urged religious people to "go on to this perfection" of sanctifying love. The revivals which followed their ministry were not superficial or ephemeral. Their genuineness and power were proved by the holy lives and triumphant deaths of the

converts. If we would be like them in power and usefulness, we must resemble them in holy consecration. Nothing is so much needed at the present time, throughout all these lands, as a general and powerful revival of scriptural holiness.

We regret that we have not been able to extend our Foreign Missionary work, since your body assembled last, owing to the want of funds. Indeed, after all the efforts which have been made, we have not liquidated in full the old debt contracted during the late war. There is, however, a strong probability that this very desirable result will be accomplished before long. Our Domestic Missions have multiplied, and with increasing usefulness. Your attention is particularly invited to the great and effectual door now open in the West. From the mouth of the Kansas River to the Golden Gate, and from the Rio Grande to Puget's Sound, there is a field becoming populous more rapidly than any in which our fathers labored in their day. No louder call has ever fallen on the ear of the ministry than that which comes to us from this vast region. Other forms of religion, some of them corrupt, are pressing their missions with astonishing vigor. All along the line of the Union and Pacific Railroad they have secured real estate; and at many places they already have church-edifices on commanding sites. They lavish money in gaining a foothold there, where, in the course of a few years, as they foresee, there will be populous and enterprising communities. Much of this population will be from our own country, and in sympathy with us; yet, up to this moment, we have done nothing toward the occupancy of the country. Your Bishops are receiving repeated and most urgent calls for men. But in the very nature of the case, we can send no men unless the Church at home will send money to meet the first expenses incurred. This is all properly missionary ground at present, including Oregon and Southern California. In Central California the work is, for the most part, self-sustaining—and, indeed, prepared to aid the common enterprises of the Church. We feel well assured that money expended on this great field will yield as rich a harvest as has ever been gathered from such sowing.

The subject of Education is one of general interest and prime importance, and no intelligent philanthropist, patriot, or Christian, can feel indifferent to it. Viewed either in its intellectual, moral, or religious aspects, it rises into grand proportions, and is invested with powerful influence. The impolicy of multiplying colleges under the patronage of the Annual Conferences, must be evident to those who are acquainted with the present condition of many of those already in

existence. In wielding aright this great agency, there must be more foresight and concentration of effort and liberality. Let those institutions to which we are already committed be encouraged with increased effort to sustain and endow them. Let a higher grade of scholarship be established in them, and the most earnest spirit of religion be cultivated by officers and students. If there be those which cannot sustain the rank of collegiate establishments, they must be content with a lower position.

The proper training of young ministers is a matter of high and acknowledged importance. How this may be best and soonest accomplished, will claim your most thoughtful consideration. We commend the subject to your earnest attention.

The inadequate support furnished, in many parts of the Connection, to the preachers regularly engaged in the pastoral work, and the consequences which must follow if this evil be not remedied, will not fail to be noticed by you. We *must* perpetuate an itinerant ministry, separated to the holy office, and consecrated to the care of souls; with all of time, and thought, and energy devoted to their sole and appropriate work. But to enable them to do this, the Church must make provision for a proper supply of their wants. While it affords us pleasure to say that, in most of our wide field of operations, there has been witnessed a decided improvement, yet there is no doubt of the fact that in some sections there is still a great deal of negligence in raising the means of support, and of consequent privation and suffering among the preachers. Do not the members of the Church need to be specially instructed and trained in this class of religious obligations?

Our attention has been, of late years, arrested by the inadequate supply of young men offering themselves to the work of the ministry, either for the home or the foreign missionary work. May we not assume that Christ, the Redeemer of all men, the Intercessor for all, does call men to the holy office in numbers sufficient to the demands of his cause in the world? The fault must be with us. How soon would an increase of piety and zeal in the Church supply the remedy for this deficiency! What can be done to arouse our whole Communion to united, fervent prayer to "the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his vineyard"?

You will consider, of course, with great care, the whole Sunday-school interest, which, we are happy to say, has assumed a magnitude and importance never before known in the history of the Southern Methodist Church. We think you may find it practicable to adopt measures that will secure a uniform scheme of instruction, with texts

furnished at our own Publishing House; together with the enlargement of the Sunday-school Visitor, and possibly, in addition to that paper, the publication of a monthly journal adapted to teachers and the older classes of pupils. It is very desirable that there should be an improvement both in the character and price of the books prepared for the use of Sunday-school libraries. We recommend the appointment of a suitable person to be specially intrusted with the oversight of these vital interests.

The Literature of the Church will not be overlooked by you. We cannot consent to surrender to others the vast power and influence wielded by the press; no Church can safely do so. In proportion to the potency of this influence is the solemn obligation resting on us to guard and guide the press. It must maintain a high religious tone—neither subsidized by wealth or power, nor perverted by ambition to partisan and political purposes. It should aim steadily at conserving the Connectionalism of the Church; and be committed to trustworthy and competent men, who love the whole Church too well to put in peril her unity and peace. We should hail with rapture the day that saw a first-class religious and literary newspaper in every Methodist family, and our standard works in every library.

There is, allow us to add, pressing need of greater facilities for procuring our standard literature on the Pacific slope. Our Church has suffered greatly from the difficulty of obtaining even a Hymn-book and Discipline. If, in your wisdom, any relief can be afforded, a great want will be supplied.

We congratulate you upon the ability and fidelity of those to whom the Journalism of the Church has been intrusted during the past four years; and especially upon the energy, ability, and success of the Agent and of the Editor of the Publishing House. They deserve the highest commendation. The prosperous condition of the publishing interests under the control of the General Conference is matter of special gratification, and of high import to the future development of the Church.

Soon after the last session of your body, the Bishops proceeded to carry into effect the plan adopted for the religious benefit of our colored members. The effort met with the approval and concurrence of many of them, notwithstanding the prejudices which were attempted—too successfully in many instances—to be instilled into their minds against us. A great number of them still retain their attachment to the Church and ministry that had in the past bestowed so much attention and labor upon their religious instruction, and through whose instrumentality they

had been enlightened and converted. Still, it is true that many, thus disposed, have been alienated from our Communion by political and ecclesiastical influences.

Conformably to the wish of the last General Conference, we have organized and presided over five Annual Conferences, composed exclusively of colored members; have formed forty-five Districts, with circuits and stations, in all of which, with a few exceptions, in which white preachers have volunteered to act as supplies, our colored brethren are performing the duties of Presiding Elders and pastors. The principal field of these operations extends through portions of Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Alabama, South Carolina, and Florida; and is widening by applications for the organization of new Conferences. The colored preachers have conducted themselves, both in their Annual Conferences and in the exercise of their pastoral duties, so as to win the confidence and coöperation of those of their white brethren who have become best acquainted with their deportment. It is our purpose, unless otherwise advised by your body, to call a General Conference, to be holden next winter, for the purpose of organizing them into an entirely separate Church, and thus enabling them to become their own guides and governors.

The suggestion of District-meetings, originating at the last session of the General Conference, has been practically adopted, under the sanction of the Annual Conferences, with signal benefit to the cause of religion. At these meetings the lay representatives to the Annual Conferences have been elected; the leading minds of the Church, lay as well as clerical, have been brought together, impressed, and moved with new zeal; the Bishops, as far as they could find the opportunity to attend, have had a new and important field of influence opened to them, and the results have been of great value to all the prominent interests of the Church, spiritual as well as economical.

In conclusion, dear brethren, we pray earnestly that the plentiful enrichment of the "spirit of power, and of love, and of a sound mind," may rest upon you in all the deliberations and decisions of the present session—the first of the kind in the annals of Methodism. Could we take you up the shining mount of vision, and show you the vast and grand Future before the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the sublime possibilities which await development in the ages to come, and which, as their condition, ask for unswerving fidelity to Christ and the solemn trust he has placed in your hands for the world, you would need no loftier inducement to the patient, resolute, prayerful discharge of the duties imposed upon you as the representatives of the entire Church. That the Divine

counsel may guide you in all things, is our devout and constant prayer.

J. O. ANDREW,
R. PAINE,
G. F. PIERCE,
H. H. KAVANAUGH,
W. M. WIGHTMAN,
E. M. MARVIN,
D. S. DOGGETT,
H. N. McTYEIRE.

Memphis, Tenn., May 5, 1870.

After impressive and commendatory remarks on the Address, by W. I. Green and L. Pierce, on motion of A. L. P. Green, the various subjects brought to notice in the Bishops' Address were referred to the several appropriate committees.

On motion of A. L. P. Green, the Committee on Education was instructed to report specially on education for the ministry.

On motion of E. H. Myers, a committee, consisting of five clerical and five lay delegates, together with the Bishops, was appointed to prepare a pastoral address on the spiritual interests of the Church.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted, to wit :

Resolved, That the Committee on Missions are hereby instructed to report to this Conference, as early as practicable, the amount of money contributed since the last General Conference for the two Missionary Boards ; what amounts have been expended by each Board in the support of Missions, and what amounts have been expended in supporting the officers and conducting the operations of each Board.

W. W. BENNETT,
A. R. WINFIELD.

On motion of N. H. Lee, the Exhibits of the Book Agent were referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

The Bishop announced the following as the Committee on the Sunday-school Hymn and Tune-book : W. M. Leftwich, Asa Snyder, T. J. Magruder, J. R. Rodgers, W. H. Foster, R. J. Morgan.

The Conference then adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Friday Morning, May 6, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Pierce in the chair. Religious services were conducted by J. Hamilton.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The following delegates, not present before, appeared and took their seats, to wit : Thos. E. Bond, lay delegate from Baltimore Conference ;

L. D. Palmer, lay delegate from North Georgia Conference; A. W. Lampkin, lay delegate from Mobile Conference; Jos. B. Palmer, lay delegate from Tennessee Conference; Thos. Maddin, Reserve clerical delegate from Tennessee Conference, in place of J. B. McFerrin, absent on account of affliction; Thos. M. Finney, clerical delegate from St. Louis Conference; and James O. Swinney, lay delegate from Missouri Conference.

The Rev. Mr. Ransom, pastor of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, was introduced to the Conference.

Bishop Kavanaugh took the chair.

R. A. Young presented the Report of J. B. McFerrin, Secretary of the Board of Domestic Missions, and, as requested by the latter, read the Appendix to the Report. The Report was referred to the Committee on Missions.

On motion of W. M. Prottzman, that part of the Report which refers to the business of an Annual Conference, was referred to the Committee on Revisal.

The members of the Committee on Finance were then announced, as follows:

Baltimore Conference, Thos. E. Bond.
Virginia Conference, A. G. Brown.
Western Virginia Conference, W. C. Ireland.
North Carolina Conference, T. M. Jones.
South Carolina Conference, H. T. Wright.
South Georgia Conference, A. H. Colquitt.
North Georgia Conference, I. P. Garvin.
Florida Conference, G. W. Taylor.
Montgomery Conference, R. H. Powell.
Mobile Conference, A. L. Andrews.
Louisiana Conference, N. A. Cravens.
Mississippi Conference, O. J. Moore.
Memphis Conference, Milton Brown.
Tennessee Conference, Jos. B. Palmer.
Holston Conference, John M. McTeer.
Kentucky Conference, W. M. Leathers.
Louisville Conference, D. Morton.
St. Louis Conference, Trusten Polk.
Missouri Conference, C. G. Epperson.
Arkansas Conference, L. L. Mack.
Little Rock Conference, J. L. De Yampert.
Indian Mission Conference, Y. Ewing.

Texas Conference, J. D. Ciddings.
East Texas Conference, Jas. F. Taylor.
Trinity Conference, W. J. Clark.
North-west Texas Conference, John R. Henry.
West Texas Conference, D. A. T. Woods.
Pacific Conference, W. E. Cocke.
Illinois Conference, Rumsey Smithson.

The Chairmen of the Standing Committees were then announced, as follows :

Episcopacy—L. M. Lee.
Itinerancy—J. E. Edwards.
Books and Periodicals—W. M. Rush.
Boundaries—Robert Alexander.
Missions—Jesse Boring.
Revisal—J. Hamilton.
Sunday-schools—Simpson Bobo.
Education—L. C. Garland.
Colored People—Jas. E. Evans.

Thomas Stanford, delegate from North-west Texas Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence, on account of family affliction, and J. S. McCarver, Reserve, took his place.

Charles K. Marshall, clerical delegate from the Mississippi Conference, appeared and took his seat.

N. H. Lee presented a memorial of the Louisville delegation, asking the removal of the Publishing House to Louisville, which was read, referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals, with instructions to report as soon as practicable, and ordered to be printed in the Daily Christian Advocate. A. H. Redford stated that though a member of the Louisville delegation, yet, in view of his connection with the Publishing House, he was not invited by his co-delegates to take part in the preparation of this memorial.

The Rev. Drs. Kerr, Bowman, Richardson, and Witherspoon, of the Presbyterian Church, were introduced to the Conference.

Petitions and Memorials were then called for.

On motion of W. M. Rush, it was ordered that all petitions and memorials be referred to the appropriate committees, without reading, unless requested by the delegations offering them.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—S. K. Vaught presented a correspondence respecting boundaries of Western Virginia and Baltimore Conferences. Referred to Committee on Boundaries.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A. M. Shipp presented a memorial

from Marion District-meeting, S. C., on District Conferences, etc. Referred to Committees on Education and Revisal.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—J. E. Evans presented a report from the Wesleyan Female College, Macon, Ga. Referred to Committee on Education.

MOBILE CONFERENCE.—A. H. Mitchell presented a memorial on making State-lines Conference boundaries. Referred to Committee on Boundaries.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—A. L. P. Green presented a memorial on distribution of Church literature. Referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals. A. H. Redford, a memorial from Superintendents of Sunday-schools in Nashville. Also, one from the Rev. W. M. Green. Referred to Committee on Sunday-schools.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—J. C. Keener presented a memorial of Conference on the New Orleans Exception. Referred to Committee on Itinerancy. Two memorials on Sunday-schools. Referred to Committee on Sunday-schools. A memorial from New Orleans Sunday-school Convention. Referred to Committee on Sunday-schools. A. H. Redford presented Exhibit of New Orleans Depository. Referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—J. M. McTeer presented a memorial of Quarterly Conference of Hillsville Station and Circuit on boundaries. Referred to Committee on Boundaries.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—E. W. Schon presented a memorial from preachers of colored Conferences, which was read and referred to Committee on Religious Interests of Colored People, and ordered to be printed in the Daily Christian Advocate.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—W. M. Rush presented a memorial on boundaries and missions. Referred to Committee on Missions. B. H. Spencer presented a memorial on changes of Discipline. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—J. M. Steel presented a memorial on boundaries. Referred to Committee on Boundaries.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—R. Alexander presented a memorial on the German Work, which was read and referred to Committee on Missions. Another on German Apologist, Hymn-book, and Catechism. Read and referred to Committee on Missions.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—L. P. Lively presented a memorial on Episcopal services in Texas. Read and referred to Committee on Episcopacy.

TRINITY CONFERENCE.—R. Lane presented a memorial of the Quar-

terly Conference of Jefferson Station on change of the name of the Church. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

I. G. John presented a memorial on Episcopal services in Texas, which was read and referred to Committee on Episcopacy.

COLUMBIA CONFERENCE.—Bishop Marvin presented the Journal of Conference—there being no delegate from Columbia Conference present.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE.—O. Fisher presented a memorial on a new Conference on the Pacific coast. Referred to Committee on Boundaries.

Bishop Marvin presented memorials from the Board of Foreign Missions, which were referred to Committee on Missions.

An invitation to members of the Conference was received from the Ladies' Memorial Association of Memphis, to attend the decoration of soldiers' graves to-morrow morning. A. H. Mitchell moved that the Conference adjourn to-morrow at 11 o'clock in order to attend.

E. H. Myers offered, as a substitute, the following resolution:

Resolved, That in view of the invitation extended to members of this Conference, to attend the service of the decoration of soldiers' graves, this body will adjourn to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

After some discussion, R. S. Moran moved the previous question, which was sustained, and the substitute of E. H. Myers was adopted.

A memorial from A. L. P. Green, R. A. Young, and T. O. Summers, a committee from the Board of Domestic Missions, was presented, read, and referred to Committee on Missions.

A communication from Bishop Paine, referring to the Life and Times of Bishop McKendree, and resolutions of J. C. Keener and L. C. Garland, commending said work, were presented, read, and, on motion of A. M. Shipp, were referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals.

On motion of C. I. Vandeventer, a committee of nine was ordered on the Circulation of the Holy Scriptures.

Bishop Pierce announced the Committee on Orphans' Homes, as follows: J. Boring, D'Arcy Paul, G. W. Williams, J. Jackson, J. Hamilton, A. L. P. Green.

J. E. Edwards and L. C. Garland offered a resolution proposing a change of the Discipline in regard to the appointment of preachers, pending the discussion of which, Conference adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Saturday Morning, May 7, 1870.

Conference met at the stated time, Bishop Kavanaugh in the chair. Religious service was conducted by O. Fisher.

The Minutes were read and approved. Bishop Wightman took the chair.

Asa Snyder, lay delegate from the Virginia Conference, and A. T. Scruggs, lay delegate from the Memphis Conference, appeared and took their seats.

On a call of the Conferences for Petitions and Memorials, the following were presented :

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—John S. Martin presented memorials of that Conference : 1st, to change the name of the Church ; 2d, to incorporate the District Conference into our ecclesiastical economy—referred to Committee on Revisal ; 3d, against division of the Conference—referred to Committee on Boundaries. A memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Piedmont Station, asking the General Conference to define who shall have the right of nomination of trustees to fill vacancies. Referred to Committee on Revisal. Also, one asking the General Conference to divide the first question of the Quarterly Conference, and that the question of complaints be changed according to the suggestion of Bishop Pierce. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—L. M. Lee presented a memorial of that Conference on change of Discipline with respect to Presiding Elders. Referred to Committee on Revisal. L. M. Lee presented a memorial of that Conference to change Discipline : asking, 1st, to strike out proviso in Answer 3, Section 5, Chapter II ; 2d, to incorporate the District Conference and define its powers ; 3d, on the title of district parsonages ; 4th, in relation to applicants for orders in the local ministry ; 5th, to add to the questions to be asked in the Annual Conference, "What ministers are received from other Churches?" 6th, to restore the rule in the Discipline in relation to arbitration.

A memorial of said Conference, requesting a rule to be inserted in the Discipline in regard to the manufacture and sale of ardent spirits. All referred to Committee on Revisal.

Also, a memorial from Stafford Circuit, Baltimore Conference, praying to be readmitted to the Virginia Conference. Referred to Committee on Boundaries.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, a special committee of nine was ordered, to which all subjects concerning District Conferences shall be referred.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—W. C. Ireland presented a petition of that Conference, praying that that part of the Western Virginia Conference extending into Kentucky be transferred to the Kentucky Conference. Referred to Committee on Boundaries.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A. M. Shipp presented a communication from Trinity Quarterly Conference, Charleston, S. C., on change of Discipline, asking for the admission of trustees into the Quarterly Conference. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—J. S. Key and J. E. Evans offered a resolution asking that Presiding Elders be allowed to appoint substitutes. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—Bishop Pierce presented a memorial from La Grange Church-meeting on Sunday-school Literature. Read and referred to Committee on Sunday-schools.

MONTGOMERY CONFERENCE.—M. S. Andrews presented a memorial from the Trustees of East Alabama Male College, which was read, referred to Committee on Education, and ordered to be published.

MOBILE CONFERENCE.—A. H. Mitchell presented a memorial of that Conference, asking a change in the order of business in the Quarterly Conference. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—H. H. Montgomery and T. Reed offered a resolution, asking that the clause, "except such as involves ministerial character and relations," be stricken out of page 45 of the Discipline. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—J. M. McTeer presented a memorial from Newbern Circuit on boundaries. Referred to Committee on Boundaries.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—H. P. Walker presented a memorial from D. Welburn on boundaries. Referred to Committee on Boundaries.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—A. H. Redford presented a memorial from that Conference on the subject of Logan Female College. Referred to Committee on Education.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—L. P. Lively presented a memorial from that Conference respecting the ordination of local preachers. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

TRINITY CONFERENCE.—R. Lane and others offered a resolution asking that 15 be substituted for 30 in Part II., Sec. 5, Par. 1, of the Discipline. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—R. H. Belvin presented a memorial from that Conference asking for a change of boundary. Referred to Committee on Boundaries.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE.—O. Fisher presented a memorial from Visalia District on religious literature and a book depository on the Pacific coast. Referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals. Also, one on the subject of dancing, which was referred to Committee on Revisal.

On motion of A. Hunter, the vote appointing a special committee of nine was reconsidered; and the memorial of the Virginia Conference on District Conferences, which was referred to that committee, was referred to Committee on Revisal.

On motion of J. E. Edwards, a memorial which had been referred to Committee on Itinerancy, was transferred to Committee on Sunday-schools.

The following resolution was offered, read, and adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That whenever a change shall be proposed in any part of our Discipline, the section, chapter, or paragraph, in which the change is proposed, shall be printed in the Daily Christian Advocate, with the change proposed in said section, chapter, or paragraph.

W. W. BENNETT,

P. A. PETERSON.

T. E. Bond and E. E. Wiley offered a resolution fixing May 23d as the day of adjournment, which was read and laid on the table till Monday.

C. I. Vandeventer and B. H. Spencer offered a resolution on the publication of a Hymn and Tune-book, which was referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals.

On motion of J. Hamilton, the Report of Committee on the Re-arrangement of the Discipline, presented by Bishop McTyéire, was referred to Committee on Revisal.

On motion of W. W. Bennett, the resolution of J. E. Edwards and L. C. Garland, on which the Conference adjourned yesterday, was amended, and, on motion of W. M. Rush, was referred to Committee on Itinerancy.

J. E. Evans and H. S. Wimberly offered a resolution asking that after the word "except," page 45 of the Discipline, second line from the bottom, the words "on the trial of ministers" be inserted instead of "such as involves ministerial character." Referred to Committee on Revisal.

On motion of P. A. Peterson and E. H. Myers, the Committee on Books and Periodicals was instructed to inquire into the expediency of publishing a monthly Review and Magazine.

H. H. Montgomery submitted the plan of finance of the Mississippi Conference, which was referred to Committee on Finance.

J. C. Keener submitted a communication from the editor of the German Evangelical Apologist. Referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals.

L. C. Garland asked and obtained leave of absence, on account of pressing professional engagements, until next Friday.

L. M. Lee offered a resolution limiting the time for the reception of any papers referring to a change of Discipline to Thursday, May 12th, during the discussion of which the hour of adjournment having arrived, Conference adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Monday Morning, May 9, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Andrew in the chair.

Religious service was conducted by W. J. Parks.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Marvin took the chair.

B. Craven asked and obtained leave of absence for J. C. Slocum, lay delegate from North Carolina Conference, on account of pressing business.

E. W. Schon asked and obtained leave of absence for N. H. Lee, clerical delegate from Louisville Conference, on account of family affliction.

A. R. Boone, lay delegate from Memphis Conference; J. M. Mask, Reserve lay delegate from Memphis Conference, in place of L. C. Garland; S. T. Scott, Reserve lay delegate from Louisville Conference, in place of J. C. Walker; J. P. Ralls, lay delegate from Montgomery Conference; J. L. De Yampert, lay delegate from Little Rock Conference; and W. H. Foster, lay delegate from Louisiana Conference, appeared and took their seats.

Reports of Committees were called for, and there being none, Petitions and Memorials were called for in the order of the Conferences.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—L. M. Lee presented a memorial from Trinity Church, Richmond, asking for the abolition of the office of Presiding Elder, and for the admission of lay delegates into the Bishops' Council. Referred to Committee on Itinerancy.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—B. Craven presented a petition from members of the Church in Charlotte, N. C., praying to be transferred to the North Carolina Conference. Referred to Committee on Boundaries.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—R. W. Lovett and others presented a memorial on the relation of local preachers. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

J. S. Key presented one on the veto power of Bishops. Referred to Committee on Episcopacy.

MOBILE CONFERENCE.—A. H. Mitchell offered a resolution on the

organization of Sunday-schools and appointment of superintendents. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

J. Hamilton presented a memorial on church-property held for the colored people in Mobile. Referred to Committee on Colored People.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—J. C. Keener offered resolutions on the German Hymn-book and Evangelical Apologist. Referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—R. Abbey offered a resolution on church-architecture. Referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals.

Another on the propriety of establishing a mission in Mexico. Referred to Committee on Missions.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—T. L. Boswell presented a petition of that Conference asking permission to divide, if found expedient, within four years. Referred to Committee on Boundaries.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—J. M. McTeer offered a resolution on the boundaries of that Conference. Referred to Committee on Boundaries.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE.—The delegation presented a petition asking for the establishment of a book depository in San Francisco. Referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals. Another on catechisms. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

The following resolutions were then presented, read, and adopted :

Resolved, That the Episcopal Committee be, and they are hereby, instructed to select and nominate one of our Bishops, or some other competent person, to write the Life of our late venerable Bishop Soule.

F. E. PITTS,

J. E. EVANS.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be directed to inquire into the propriety of so changing the language of the Discipline, where suspension is mentioned as a punishment, as to make the time of suspension depend on the repentance and reformation of the suspended party.

WHITEFOORD SMITH,

W. P. MOUZON.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire into the expediency of changing Sec. 5, Chap. 2, page 61, of the Discipline, as follows: After the word "care," in the fifth line from the top of the page, add the following, "or to any other appropriate work in which he may be useful as a minister of the gospel among us."

JOSEPH C. PINNIX,

W. H. BOBBITT,

R. S. MORAN,

W. BARRINGER,

J. C. SLOCUM,

N. F. REID,

JOHN W. LEAK,

T. M. JONES,

B. CRAVEN,

Delegates from North Carolina Conference.

J. B. McFerrin presented memorials from S. T. Moorman, the first referring to Presiding Elders' Districts—referred to Committee on Itinerancy; the second on missions—referred to Committee on Missions.

On motion of Trusten Polk,

Resolved, That when this Conference adjourns, it adjourns to meet at the Second Street Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in this city.

On motion of L. M. Lee, the question on which the Conference adjourned, on Saturday, was taken up.

A. A. Gilbert moved to amend the first resolution by adding, "unless by a vote of three-fourths of the Conference." This motion prevailed.

On motion of H. A. C. Walker, it was farther amended by substituting 14 for 16.

Paul Whitehead moved to amend by omitting the words "receive or".

R. S. Moran moved to lay the amendment on the table. This motion did not prevail.

W. J. Parks moved the previous question. The motion was sustained—the question was put, and the amendment was lost.

The resolutions were then adopted, as follows, to wit:

Resolved, 1st, That from and after the 14th day of May, the General Conference will not either receive or refer to a committee any proposition intended to affect a change in the language or laws of the Discipline, unless by a vote of three-fourths of the Conference.

Resolved, 2d, That the Committee on Revisal, or any other committee, be, and they hereby are instructed, on the completion of any report, changing the language or laws of the Discipline, to report the same forthwith to the General Conference, in order that it may be printed in the Daily Christian Advocate, for the consideration of the members of this body.

LEROY M. LEE,

JOS. B. COTTRELL.

W. A. McCarty was put in the place of O. R. Blue on the Committee on Episcopacy, and J. P. Ralls in the place of J. Mathews on the Committee on Sunday-schools, from the Montgomery delegation.

The resolution of T. E. Bond and E. E. Wiley, laid on the table on Saturday, was taken up.

A motion of A. H. Mitchell to lay on the table was lost.

J. E. Edwards moved to amend by putting Thursday, the 26th, instead of Monday, the 23d.

M. S. Andrews moved 30th as a substitute.

A. R. Winfield moved the previous question, which was sustained, and the substitute was lost.

The amendment was then put, and lost.

The resolution was then carried by a vote of 123.

Whereas, by diligence and promptness in attention to its business, this Conference can finish its work within two weeks; and whereas, experience teaches that in all similar assemblies, expedition is attained by fixing a day of adjournment; therefore, *Resolved*, That this General Conference will adjourn, *sine die*, on Monday, 23d May.

THOS. E. BOND,
E. E. WILEY.

The following resolutions were then offered, read, and adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be requested to report to this Conference its action in regard to the resolution of Messrs. Edwards and Garland on the subject of the removal of the restrictions of the pastoral term, so that the subject involved be the order of the day at 10 A.M., Friday next.

J. B. COTTRELL,
R. H. POWELL.

Resolved, That the Committee on Sunday-schools are hereby instructed to inquire into the expediency—and report as early as possible—upon that part of the Bishops' Address in which they recommend improvements in the interests of Sunday-schools, and report a plan—1st, For a universal system of lessons; 2d, A monthly periodical in the interests of teachers; 3d, The publication of the Sunday-school Visitor once a week. All which to be published at our Publishing House, and under the supervision of an editor to be appointed by this Conference.

JAS. WICKERSHAM,
GEO. N. LESTER.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to consider the practicability of obtaining a collection of Church-music, containing a variety of suitable tunes for all the metres in our Hymn-book, and adapted to the wants of our congregations in this respect.

CHAS. F. HARVEY.

P. A. Peterson and P. Whitehead offered a resolution on Presiding Elders reporting to Annual Conferences educational statistics. Referred to Committee on Education.

The following resolution was offered, read, and, on motion of Thos. Reed, was laid on the table :

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so arranging the Presiding Elders' Districts as to reduce the number of Presiding Elders to one-half of the present num-

ber in each Annual Conference, and to provide for semi-annual rounds by Presiding Elders in their respective Districts.

LEVI D. TRAVERS,
JOSEPH HENDRICKSON,
S. J. BRADLEY,
W. P. CONWAY,
T. J. MAGRUDER,
ASA SNYDER.

S. T. Scott, Reserve delegate from Louisville Conference, was put on the Committee on Missions in place of W. B. Machen, and on the Committee on Sunday-schools in place of J. C. Walker.

A. R. Winfield, of Little Rock Conference, was put on the Committee on Revisal in place of A. Hunter, and A. Hunter on the Committee on Boundaries in place of A. R. Winfield.

B. Craven and W. Barringer offered the following resolution, which was read and not adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Education be instructed to examine the subject of catechetical instruction upon the doctrines and government of our Church, and report what action, if any, should be had by this Conference on that subject.

B. CRAVEN,
WM. BARRINGER.

F. E. Pitts and six others of the Tennessee delegates presented a communication opposing the division of said Conference, which was read and referred to Committee on Boundaries.

The Secretary presented copies of his Commentary and Questions on Matthew and Mark, and bound volumes of the Catechisms of the Church, and Sunday-School Visitor, which were referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, Conference adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Tuesday Morning, May 10, 1870.

Conference met, in the Second Street Methodist Church, at the stated hour, Bishop Marvin in the chair.

Religious service was conducted by J. B. McFerrin.

The Bishop announced the Committee on the Tune-book, to wit : C. F. Harvey, D'Arcy Paul, Thos. O. Summers.

Bishop Doggett took the chair.

The upper side of the fifth window was made the bar of the house.

John Mathews, clerical delegate from the Montgomery Conference, appeared and took his seat.

W. L. Lipscomb, lay delegate from the Mobile Conference, appeared and took his seat.

Reports of Committees were ~~then~~ called for.

J. Hamilton, chairman of the Committee on Revision, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rule. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REVISION, NO. 1.

The Committee on Revision beg leave to offer Report No. 1:

Your committee have had under careful consideration the Re-arrangement of the Book of Discipline, reported by the Special Committee appointed by the last General Conference, and approve the same, and recommend its adoption by this General Conference, subject to such minor changes as may be judged advisable.

They recommend also that all proposed changes be conformed to said arrangement, as to chapters, sections, pages, etc., as such conformity will render them easy of examination and comparison.

Your committee have also had under consideration a memorial from the Mobile Conference, proposing a new and extended order of business for Quarterly Conferences, and recommend that it be not adopted.

Also, a resolution offered by J. S. Key and J. E. Evans, proposing a change of Sec. IV., Ques. 3, page 53, of the Discipline, so as to authorize Presiding Elders to appoint an elder to preside in Quarterly Conferences in their absence, and recommend non-concurrence.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. HAMILTON, Chairman.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on the Religious Interests of Colored People, presented Report No. 1, which was read, laid on the table for the present, and ordered to be printed in the Daily Christian Advocate. It is as follows:

REPORT ON THE RELIGIOUS INTERESTS OF THE COLORED PEOPLE, NO. 1.

The Committee on the Religious Interests of the Colored People beg leave to submit their first Report.

We have had under consideration that part of the Bishops' Address and all other papers referred to your committee; and, after mature deliberation, we submit the following resolutions for the adoption of the Conference:

Resolved, 1. That the action of the last General Conference in reference to an ultimate organization of the colored people of the M. E. Church, South, into a separate Church is complete, and therefore no additional legislation is necessary to the end intended.

2. That we fully approve the purpose of the Bishops, as expressed in their Address to this Conference, at an early day to call a General Conference for our colored members, to organize them into a separate Church, as provided in the Discipline.

3. That we respectfully suggest to the Bishops to take measures to organize other Annual Conferences, wherever it may be proper to do so, that they may be represented in the contemplated General Conference; provided, the time of the holding of said General Conference shall not be delayed thereby.

4. That we appreciate the services rendered in this cause by Brother Thomas Taylor; and we do hereby commend him to the Bishops, should his services be needed in the farther prosecution and consummation of this organization.

5. That all trustees now holding Church-property for the use of our colored membership, be instructed to make titles to said property to the properly constituted trustees of the Colored M. E. Church, South, according to the Discipline of said Church, when organized.

Whereas, applications have been made by certain parties for the transfer of the title to property belonging to the M. E. Church, South, to congregations who have withdrawn from our Communion; and, whereas, we regard the property conveyed to our trustees, for the use of the colored congregations of our Church, a sacred trust to be held for them; therefore,

Resolved, 6. That it is the settled conviction of this body that the M. E. Church, South, has neither the legal nor moral right to transfer any property thus held to those who have withdrawn from our Church.

7. That the disinterested service rendered our colored people in a time of need, by Rev. Samuel Watson, in the publication of the Christian Index, deserves and receives the warmest commendation of this Conference; and we do hereby recommend that paper to our colored members as worthy of their patronage.

8. That we commend the Colored M. E. Church, South, when formed, to the warmest sympathies, earnest prayers and support of the people of the South.

Respectfully submitted,

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

The Bishop then called for Petitions and Memorials.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—L. M. Lee presented a memorial of the Virginia Conference Sunday-school Society on the relation of baptized children to the Church. Referred to Committee on Sunday-schools.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A. M. Shipp presented a memo-

rial of the Rev. S. H. Browne on the subject of war, which was referred to Committee on the Pastoral Address.

MONTGOMERY CONFERENCE.—M. S. Andrews presented a memorial from that Conference on the relation of local churches, etc., which was read and referred to Committee on Revisal.

J. Mathews presented another from the same Conference on the organization of Sunday-schools, which was read and referred to Committee on Revisal.

MOBILE CONFERENCE.—A. H. Mitchell presented a petition from that Conference on the insertion of a rule prohibiting worldly amusements. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

J. Hamilton presented a memorial from the Columbus District on a Methodist University. Referred to Committee on Education.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—F. W. Earnest presented a memorial on local preachers. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

TRINITY CONFERENCE.—R. Lane presented a memorial of the Quarterly Conference of Canton and Garden Valley Circuit on boundaries. Referred to Committee on Boundaries.

The following resolutions were then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so altering the Discipline as to make chairmen of Boards of Trustees of Church-property members of the Quarterly Conference.

W. H. BOBBITT,
B. CRAVEN.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire into the propriety of inserting into the Discipline, as a part of the business of the Quarterly Conference, the following question: "Has the sacrament of the Lord's Supper been regularly administered?"

W. A. McCARTY,
M. S. ANDREWS,
W. SHAPARD.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Discipline, Part II., Sec. 6, Par. 4, page 249, that all after the word "finance," in the sentence—at the top of the page—shall be stricken out, and the following words inserted, to wit: "To consist of one clerical and one lay member of the Conference for each Presiding Elder's District. The clerical members shall be appointed by the President of the Conference (unless otherwise ordered) at the close of its annual session, to hold their office until the close of the next ensuing Annual Conference session, and the lay mem-

bers shall be appointed on the first day of the session during which they are to act."

R. S. MORAN,
N. F. REID.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the Discipline, Chap. II., page 67, so as to strike out the whole of the 9th section.

R. S. MORAN,
N. F. REID.

Resolved, That the Committee on Books and Periodicals be requested to consider the propriety and importance of publishing a weekly newspaper for general circulation amongst all our people upon the plan heretofore presented to the General Conference.

C. K. MARSHALL,
A. M. SHIPP.

Whereas, the sufferings and necessities of orphans have in all ages claimed the sympathy and tender care of the Church of Christ; and

Whereas, the number of orphans in our land, and within the boundaries of our Church, appeals with touching emphasis to the enlightened charity of all good and Christian people; and

Whereas, we deem the ordinary method of collecting great numbers of orphans into massive, solitary, gloomy, and expensive buildings, unwise and contrary to the best interests of the orphans and of society—inasmuch as such children are unavoidably subjected to an unnatural and often most painful course of life, destroying the cheerfulness of childhood, and making the just and proper formation of character upon a high standard almost impossible—therefore,

Resolved, That we regard it as desirable, in undertaking a general system for the accomplishment of the work of befriending and educating orphans, we should consider the propriety of adopting a system applicable to the boundaries of each Annual Conference, by which, under a suitable organization, a general supervision of orphans may be so arranged that orphans may be taken under the authority and management of such organizations, and boarded out in families, and supported, and educated, and trained up in home and family relations, and apprenticed to learn appropriate trades, and thus rendered happy and useful.

C. K. MARSHALL,
A. W. WILSON.

The following resolution was offered, read, discussed at considerable length, and not adopted:

Resolved, That the Bishops be, and they are hereby, respectfully requested, by the General Conference now in session, to give to the Church an official definition of the clause, "unless in cases of

necessity," as it now stands in the General Rule against "drinking spirituous liquors."

T. L. BOSWELL,

J. M. MASK.

On motion of T. L. Boswell and J. M. Mask,

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be, and they are hereby, instructed to inquire into the necessity and propriety of framing a specific rule against the manufacture or sale of spirituous liquors by members of our Church, except for chemical and mechanical purposes.

A. G. Brown and D'Arcy Paul offered a resolution on the support of the ministry, which was read and referred to Committee on Finance, and ordered to be printed in the Daily Christian Advocate.

D. R. McAnally and other delegates of St. Louis Conference offered a resolution requesting the Committee on Boundaries to inquire into the practicability of organizing a Conference in the State of Kansas, which was adopted.

The following resolution was offered, read, and adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be, and they are hereby, respectfully requested to leave the Catechism out of the Book of Discipline.

D. R. McANALLY,

M. M. PUGH,

TRUSTEN POLK.

J. O. Sweeney asked and obtained leave of absence on account of pressing business.

The following resolution was offered, read, and referred to Committee on Boundaries :

Resolved, That the Pacific Conference be, and the same is hereby, authorized to divide its territory into two Annual Conferences at any time that may suit its convenience within the next four years.

O. FISHER,

T. C. BARTON,

W. E. COCKE,

E. K. MILLER.

The following resolution was offered, read, and laid over under the rule:

Resolved, That the answer to Ques. 5, Chap. II., page 50, line 7, of the Discipline, concerning Annual Conference action, on the passage of ministerial character, be so amended as to read as follows: "It being always understood that the passage of the character of a traveling preacher is the indorsement of the Conference that he has faithfully discharged all the duties pertaining to the office and order of his ministry."

L. PIERCE,

J. S. KEY.

R. Lane and other delegates of Trinity Conference offered a resolution on boundaries, which was referred to Committee on Boundaries.

On motion of W. P. Harrison and J. Boring, a special committee of five was ordered to consider the expediency of changing certain expressions in the Ritual.

The following resolutions were then offered, read, and adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be requested to inquire into the propriety of so amending the law of the Discipline as to make a member holding a certificate of membership, amenable for his conduct to the particular church granting said certificate, and giving said church authority to discipline said member as though he should then be in regular connection with said church.

W. SHAPARD,

JOS. B. COTTRELL.

Resolved, That the venerable and beloved Dr. Lovick Pierce, one of the few men of God who connect us personally and directly with the fathers of American Methodism, be, and hereby is, affectionately invited and requested to preach a sermon to the General Conference now in session, at such time as may be most suitable to his convenience.

R. J. MORGAN,

W. C. JOHNSON,

J. C. KEENER.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be requested to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Discipline, Chap. II., Sec. 4, page 57, as after the words, "At the fourth quarterly meeting let the report of trustees be called for," to add these words: "And let the President of the Conference ask, Are there any vacancies to be filled, or any changes to be made in the Board of Trustees?"

A. G. HAYGOOD,

T. M. MERIWETHER.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be requested to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Discipline, Part I., Chap. IV., Sec. 4, page 127, as after the word "church," insert this paragraph: "Persons holding certificates of dismission from our Church shall be amenable to the authority of those charges in which they may reside."

A. G. HAYGOOD,

JESSE BORING.

On motion of W. H. Potter and A. G. Haygood, the Book Editor stated the reasons that a Music-book for Sunday-schools has not been published, agreeably to the provision of the last General Conference. He stated that the Book Agent had taken steps for the publication of

said work, but it has been delayed on account of the circumstances of the Publishing House.

J. Mathews, of the Montgomery Conference, was put on the Committee on Sunday-schools in place of J. P. Ralls; and T. J. McCoy, lay delegate from the Baltimore Conference, on the Committee on Missions in place of W. P. Conway.

F. E. Pitts and L. M. Lee offered a resolution on the arrangement of the work on circuits, which called forth an extended discussion. W. M. Byrd moved to refer it to the Committee on Itinerancy. During the pendency of this question, the hour of adjournment having arrived, Conference adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Wednesday Morning, May 11, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Doggett in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by A. H. Mitchell.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop McTyeire took the chair, and called for Reports from Standing Committees.

L. M. Lee, chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Reports Nos. 1, 2, and 3, of that committee, which were read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 1.

The Committee on Episcopacy beg leave to offer the following tribute to the memory of Bishop Soule:

It is due to the eminent services rendered to the Church by the late venerable and beloved Bishop Soule, that this General Conference acknowledge the justice of the encomium passed upon his life and labors by his colleagues in their Episcopal Address, and that we, adopting their sentiments, express our admiration of his thorough devotion to God and to the best interests of mankind, throughout his long and honorable career in those offices of high responsibility he filled in the Church so faithfully and so usefully. We rejoice that we ever had so noble an example set before us of fidelity, purity, dignity, and self-sacrificing devotion to duty and to principle—an example which we commend to all who would approve themselves to the Church and to the world as faithful ministers of the gospel of Christ. We acknowledge with profound gratitude the good providence which spared him so long to the Church as its counselor and guide, and which crowned a ripe old age with such blessings of serene peace and holy triumph as characterized his closing days. So long as we live we will cherish his mem-

ory, and will hand it down to our sons and successors in the service of the Church, as a monument of the power of the gospel to develop the noblest elements of manhood, until in him they reached a sublimity that made him fit for the companionship of that illustrious company of Christian heroes of the olden time, "of whom the world was not worthy."

On this occasion, and in this brief tribute, we can only give these few salient points of his life.

Joshua Soule was born August 1, 1781. On the 19th of June, 1799, he was admitted into the traveling connection, and appointed to the Portland Circuit in Maine. He was elected deacon in 1800; was elected Bishop at the General Conference of 1820; declined to be consecrated at that time, but was reelected and ordained in 1824; and died in triumph, March 6, 1867.

But how much actual service and fruitful labor was crowded into the interval between these extreme dates, must be left to his biographer to say.

This body can now say no more than that, in common with the entire Connection, which he loved so well, we mourn the removal from the Church of so venerable and wise a leader, and pray that the mantle of our ascended Elijah may fall upon his sons and successors in the ministry.

L. M. LEE, Chairman.

Memphis, May 11, 1870.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 2.

The Committee on Episcopacy recommend to the General Conference the following action in respect to two of our honored Bishops, whose lives have been prolonged beyond the period of active service to the Church.

The General Conference recognize the mercy of God in sparing to the Church the lives of the venerable Bishops Andrew and Early, that it may yet have the benefit of their wisdom and experience, and the illustration they give of a declining age, cheered by the consolations of religion, and hallowed by the recollections of a long and fruitful service for God and the Church. In their afflictions, and amid the infirmities of age, they will ever have the sympathies and prayers of the Church, and we heartily unite in the hope that they will find that the afflictions of this present time are not worthy to be compared to the glory that shall be revealed in them. The Conferences will always hail their presence with pleasure, and receive gratefully such service as they may still be able to render in the pulpit and the councils of the Church,

until the great Head thereof shall reveal to them immortality and eternal life—which day we may wish, for our sakes, may be long delayed, while for their sakes to depart and to be with Christ may be far better.

Resolved, That Bishops Andrew and Early be released as heretofore from active participation in the responsibilities of the Episcopal office; but we request that, as far as their health and circumstances will allow, they give to their colleagues and the Church at large the benefits of their experience and counsels.

L. M. LEE, Chairman.

Memphis, May 11, 1870.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 3.

The Committee on Episcopacy have had under review the official service and Christian character of all our Bishops for the past four years, and we take great pleasure in reporting that the general testimony is highly honorable to our chief pastors—and especially to those on whom the burden of active service now falls—for an industry, fidelity, and consistency, worthy of the days of the fathers of the Church. These years have been marked by a renewal of closer intimacy with the membership of the Church, and a wider and more particular distribution of Episcopal labors among the people, in the intervals of Conference sessions, than had been customary for some years previously; and, as a consequence, their personal influence has been more generally felt, and their official character has made a deeper impress upon all its departments of labor. Improvement in all its interests has resulted, and the hopes of the future have grown brighter, as our Bishops have traversed the land, to guide the office-bearers in the Church and the ministry, and to preach the gospel of salvation.

This testimony to their zeal and fidelity is due to those who have been abundant in labors during the past four years—often at the cost of long absence from their families, and of arduous travel and great sacrifice of home-comforts. In this they have proved themselves an example to those over whom they had rule; and they merit whatever encouragement commendation may give, to continue this work until every section of the Church has become familiar with their presence and labors.

Resolved, That the character of the Bishops pass, and that their administration during the last four years be approved.

L. M. LEE, Chairman.

Memphis, May 11, 1870.

Bishop Doggett announced the Committee on the Revisal of the

Ritual, W. P. Harrison, J. E. Edwards, R. A. Young, C. W. Miller, J. B. Cottrell.

The following communication was received, and the call for Reports was suspended to hear it read, to wit:

To the Bishops and General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Conference assembled:

DEAR BRETHREN:—The Commissioners appointed by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in 1868, to treat with similar Commissioners from other Methodist Churches, on the subject of union, at a meeting held in Philadelphia, Nov. 23, 1868, appointed the Rev. Bishop Janes and the Rev. John McClintock, D.D., a deputation to bear to you a communication from them. Since then Dr. McClintock has deceased, and, by the authority of the Commission, the Rev. William L. Harris, D.D., has been appointed to serve in his stead.

The undersigned, now constituting the deputation, are present at the seat of your session, for the purpose of presenting to you the communication of the Commission, which we will be happy to do, either in person or by letter, as may best accord with your convenience and pleasure. Though we had proposed to ourselves the satisfaction of spending several days in witnessing the proceedings of your Conference, and enjoying the society of its members, the recent severe bereavement of our Church, in the death of several of her chief ministers, makes it necessary for us to return as soon as we can fulfill the simple duty assigned us.

Truly and affectionately yours,

E. S. JANES,
W. L. HARRIS.

Overton Hotel, Memphis, May 11, 1870.

On motion of J. E. Evans, a committee of three was appointed to wait on Bishop Janes and Dr. Harris, and invite them to the Conference-room. The Chair appointed Bishop Wightman, Trusten Polk, and L. M. Lee on this committee.

The call for Reports was then resumed.

W. M. Rush, chairman of the Committee on Books and Periodicals, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 1.

Your committee to whom was referred the communication of Bishop Paine, in relation to his work, "Life and Times of Bishop McKendree," prepared by him in compliance with the request of the General Conference, together with a paper from Drs. Keener and Garland, touching the same matter, would respectfully report:

That in their judgment the work is of so great value, not only because it presents the Methodist Itinerant preacher in his true light as set forth in the labors, travels, and sufferings of Bishop McKendree, but because of its historic character, being the only reliable history of the Church, in many respects, during the period in which he lived, that it should be widely circulated throughout the Church, and measures should be taken to perpetuate it for the benefit of coming generations; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the General Conference expresses not only its appreciation, but its unqualified admiration, of the manner in which Bishop Paine has discharged the laborious and delicate trust confided to him by the General Conference of 1854, in the preparation and publication of the "Life and Times of Bishop McKendree."

2. That the Conference regards the work as an extremely valuable and timely contribution to the general, and particularly to the constitutional, history of the Methodist Church in America during the most eventful period of its development, as well as a faithful and interesting delineation of the character and labors of the venerable McKendree.

3. That the Bishops be, and they hereby are, requested to put it into the Course of Study prescribed for undergraduates in our ministry.

4. That we accept, and hereby tender our thanks to Bishop Paine for the copy of his work that accompanied his communication, and that it be preserved in the archives of this General Conference.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

Memphis, May 11, 1870.

J. Hamilton, Chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rule. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, NO. 2.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to offer Report No. 2.

Your committee have had under consideration a memorial from the Virginia Conference upon the subject of District Conferences, and report the following, to be adopted as Sec. 3 of Chap. II., of the new arrangement:

Question. What directions are given concerning District Conferences?

Answer 1. There shall be held annually, in each Presiding Elder's District, a District Conference. The time shall be fixed by the Presiding Elder, and the place by the Conference.

2. The District Conference shall be composed of all the preachers in the District, both traveling and local, and of laymen, the number of whom, and their mode of appointment, each Annual Conference may determine for itself.

3. A Bishop, or, in his absence, the Presiding Elder, shall preside; and if both be absent, the Conference shall elect a President.

4. The Conference shall elect a Secretary, who shall keep a record of all its proceedings.

5. It shall be the duty of the Conference to inquire particularly into the condition of the several charges in the District: (1) As to their spiritual state, and the attendance upon the ordinances and social meetings of the Church. (2) As to missions within the District, where new ones should be established, or what missions should be raised to circuits and stations. (3) As to Sunday-schools, and the manner of conducting them, and as to education generally. (4) As to their financial systems, their contributions to Church-purposes, and the condition of houses of worship and parsonages.

6. The District Conference shall elect annually, by ballot, from the District, four delegates to the ensuing Annual Conference: *provided*, no member of the Annual Conference shall vote in said election.

7. At these Conferences, prominence shall be given to religious exercises, such as preaching, prayer-meetings, love-feasts, and the administration of the sacraments.

Your committee also had before them a second memorial from the Virginia Conference, asking a change in Chap. II., Sec. 5, Ans. 3, of the Discipline, by striking out the clause which limits the number of appointments in a Presiding Elder's District to fourteen, and recommend that the General Conference *do not* concur.

Respectfully submitted.

J. HAMILTON, Chairman.

On motion of T. M. Finney, it was ordered that all Reports of Standing Committees be printed in the Daily Christian Advocate, unless otherwise ordered.

S. Bobo, chairman of the Committee on Sunday-schools, submitted Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table for the present. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 1.

The Committee on Sunday-schools beg leave respectfully to present the following as their Report No. 1:

The committee share with the Bishops in the gratification expressed

in their Address to the General Conference, that "the whole Sunday-school interest has assumed a magnitude and importance never before known in the history of the Southern Methodist Church." Good and wise men will accept this fact as one of the most hopeful signs of the times. It furnishes a reason for both gratitude and encouragement. When it is considered that thousands of the best men and women of our Church are engaged in the religious education of not less, it is believed, than a quarter of a million of our children, no argument can be needed to magnify our conception of the capabilities for doing good of an institution that occupies such a field, and that is intrusted with such opportunities.

Your committee are encouraged by the fact that the mind and heart of the Church are being turned to the great question of bringing our Sunday-schools to the highest point of efficiency. While we have certainly made some progress, your committee are convinced that our whole system of Sunday-school instruction may be greatly improved. Practically, we are without a system, and it is hardly an exaggeration to say that each one of our Sunday-schools is a law unto itself. This may be attributed, in large measure, to the incompleteness and unsatisfactoriness of our Sunday-school appliances. Our Church has furnished but few books to our schools; and these, we are sorry to say, have not been favorably received. Our most successful superintendents have felt so deeply the need of other and more satisfactory reading-books and requisites, that, in many cases, they have been constrained to seek for them in other quarters.

The Bishops say, in their Address: "We think you may find it practicable to adopt measures that will secure a uniform scheme of instruction, with texts furnished at our own Publishing House." Your committee believe that the reasonableness of this opinion cannot be questioned, and that the desirableness of such a scheme of instruction will hardly be doubted.

After careful inquiry into the facts of the case—collated from a very wide field—your committee have come reluctantly to the conclusion that our child's paper, "The Sunday-school Visitor," has not met the wants of our schools, nor competed successfully with its many and attractive rivals for their patronage.

The Bishops suggest the possibility of "the publication of a monthly journal adapted to teachers and the older classes of pupils." We know that many of our best Sunday-school workers have long felt the need of such a publication to aid them in the use of the most approved method of Sunday-school instruction.

There is another subject of grave importance, not mentioned in that part of the Bishops' Address, upon which we have been instructed to report, but that has been urged upon our consideration by various memorials and resolutions referred to us, and that we believe to be appropriate to the subject-matter of this Report—the want of a book of Sunday-school music that shall enable us not only to teach our children to sing, but (borrowing the language of a resolution passed by the last General Conference) teach them “to sing with a view to their participating in the singing of the congregation in public worship.”

Our Church does not afford such a book of Sunday-school music. Of necessity, therefore, our Sunday-school workers have looked elsewhere for the supply of their wants. Our schools are using, perhaps, not less than forty different books of Sunday-school music. We have seen as many as thirty-seven varieties advertised in a single issue of one of our Church-papers. Upon such a plan as this, it is inevitable that our children will be so taught as *not* to “participate in the singing of the congregation in public worship.” We do not hesitate to say that not one of these books properly meets the wants of a Methodist Sunday-school. Indeed, their compilers have almost wholly excluded Methodist hymnology from these collections.

We say nothing here as to the causes of our failure to meet the various wants of our Sunday-schools; but having carefully investigated the subject, we beg leave to commend to the consideration of this General Conference the closing sentence of that part of the Bishops' Address that refers to our Sunday-school interests. The Bishops say: “We recommend the appointment of a suitable person to be specially intrusted with the oversight of these vital interests.”

Your committee submit the following resolutions for the adoption of the General Conference:

Resolved, 1. That we recommend the adoption by our Sunday-schools of the best system of uniform lessons that can be procured, in connection with the best Church-catechisms that have been or can be prepared.

2. That we advise the publication, at the earliest practicable day, of “a monthly journal adapted to teachers and the older classes of pupils.”

3. That no pains should be spared to make our children's paper, in its literary merits, in the style of its illustrations, as well as in its mechanical execution, all that our schools require, and the equal of the best children's paper published in this country.

4. That it is recommended that our children's paper be issued in such form that it may be distributed weekly among the children.

5. That this General Conference hereby directs the publication of a suitable book of Sunday-school music, as soon as practicable.

6. That in order to meet the various wants of our schools, the entire Department of Sunday-school Literature and Requisites (including Sunday-school music) be placed under the superintendence of a competent man, to be elected by this General Conference, who shall be known as Sunday-school Secretary, and who shall devote his entire time to this work.

7. That the Book Committee be instructed to fix the salary of the Sunday-school Secretary, and to afford him a competent support.

8. That in case of a vacancy in the Secretaryship of the Sunday-school Department, in the interval of the sessions of the General Conference, by death, by resignation, or otherwise, the Bishops are hereby instructed to appoint his successor till the ensuing General Conference.

S. BOBO, Chairman.

The call was again suspended for the introduction of Bishop Janes and Dr. Harris, who were introduced by the Bishop.

The following communication was presented by Bishop Janes, and read by the Secretary. It is as follows :

To the Bishops and General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Conference assembled :

DEAR BRETHREN :—By the action and authority of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, held in Chicago in May, 1868, the undersigned were appointed a Commission, in behalf of said Church, to treat with a similar Commission from any other Methodist Church, on the subject of union.

The Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who also constitute a part of this Commission, in May, 1869, communicated to the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the fact that such a Commission had been appointed, and expressed to them the conviction that the Commission would be happy to meet a similar one from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, for the purpose contemplated in its appointment.

At a meeting of this Commission, held in Philadelphia, November 23, 1869, a resolution was unanimously adopted, approving the aforesaid action of the Bishops. Nevertheless, the Commission, as such, and as constituted by the General Conference, being desirous of discharging its duties in the fullest and most acceptable manner, deemed it proper to make a farther communication on this subject, addressed to the Bishops and General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to meet in Memphis, in May, 1870.

The fact that the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church appointed this Commission, shows that, in the judgment of that body, there are now no sufficient reasons why a union may not be effected on terms equally honorable to all, and that the realization of such union is very important and desirable.

Hoping that you may see this subject in the same light, and that it may be your pleasure to appoint a similar Commission to confer with us previous to the meeting of our next General Conference in 1872; and praying that you may be prospered in all that pertains to the welfare of a Christian Church, and desiring your prayers in behalf of the Church we represent, that we may share a like prosperity, we are, dear brethren, yours in Christ Jesus,

EDMUND S. JAMES,
LEVI SCOTT,
MATTHEW SIMPSON,
EDWARD R. AMES,
DAVIS W. CLARK,
EDWARD THOMSON,
LUKE HITCHCOCK,
DANIEL CURRY,
JOHN MCCLINTOCK,
JOHN LANAHAN,
JOHN G. BRUCE,
THOMAS M. EDDY,
JAMES PIKE,
WILLIAM L. HARRIS,

Commissioners.

Philadelphia, Nov. 23, 1869.

After the reading of the communication, Bishop Janes came forward and thus addressed the Conference :

“Having presented that document, we consider that our official duty is performed. There is one incident, however, in connection with this matter, to which I think it proper to refer. When that document was provided for, it was not intended to be made public, until it was presented here at this time. Its being made public is not by the action or approval of this Commission. It was its intention in a dignified and delicate manner to make this communication, and it was not intended to be heralded in the papers, that there should be any discussion over it that it could be made use of to the advantage or the disadvantage of any party. I think it due this Commission to say that this has not been done by our action or approval. I deem it proper to say farther, that I believe that the General Conference has acted with Christian impulse and candor.

"I am sure that this Commission acts from religious convictions and with perfect candor. The action of the General Conference was limited, and you can interpret it as wisely as I can. This Commission was appointed to treat with similar Commissions from other Methodist Churches. I do not understand that it is authorized to take any definite action, but only that it might learn what embarrassments are in the way of union, and ascertain in what manner union may be effected. In being deputed to bear this document, I was not authorized to negotiate on any question, but I judge that we can confer together with the view to receive or give any information on this subject. I believe this is a simple and true explanation, so far as respects the Church which we represent. I do not think that any of us can expect that perfect organic union can be effected at once, without much negotiation. The history of the past five years will not justify us in entertaining such a hope, and yet we do believe that the prayer of Christ will be heard, and the day will come when his people shall be one. I am not willing to lead this Conference to any action but what is justified by the action of the Conference I represent. I would do great injustice to my own feelings did I not add that it affords me great pleasure to look upon my brethren whom I have known in years gone by. I thank God for his preserving kindness, and for his blessings conferred upon you. It also gives me pleasure to be present at your deliberations, and I pray that grace may be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity."

Dr. Harris being invited to address the Conference, said: "It is impossible for me to add any thing to what has already been said, except that I *most* cordially agree with the Bishop touching the feeling of the Church and the purpose of the Commission which we represent."

Dr. Keener said: "I have listened, together with the rest of my brethren, with great pleasure to the Christian and very earnest spirit of our brethren of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Coming to us as they do across a period of disaster and division, they are especially grateful to us. As to this proposition which comes to us with the prestige of their Church, I think we should pause for a moment to examine into its meaning. If I understand the Journal of the M. E. Church on this point, this Commission extends to the African M. E. Zion Church, and to all other Methodist Churches wishing to seek union with them. I will read the resolution adopted by them on this question from the Journal of the last General Conference of the M. E. Church, which I hold in my hand:

"*Resolved*, That the Commission ordered by the General Conference

to confer with a like Commission from the African M. E. Zion Church, to arrange for the union of that body with our own, be also empowered to treat with a similar Commission from any other Methodist Church that may desire a like union.'

"If I understand that, this Commission is to treat with any Churches that may be knocking for admission at the door of the M. E. Church, and not to knock for admission at the door of any other Church. If this be the condition of things, then there is a great difficulty in entertaining any proposition looking to union, because of the original instructions of their Conference. But if they come before us desiring fraternal intercourse, another difficulty presents itself—they do not come authorized to negotiate for union. I therefore offer the following resolutions, which I move to be referred to a special committee to be appointed on this question:

"Resolved, 1. That gratefully recognizing that Providence which has hitherto guided us, multiplied us, and strengthened our hands under trying conditions, both of war and peace, as a Church of Jesus Christ, we earnestly desire to cultivate true Christian fellowship with every other branch of the Christian Church, and especially with our brethren of the several branches of Methodism in this country and in Europe.

"2. That the action of our Board of Bishops at their last annual meeting in St. Louis, in response to the Message from the Board of Bishops of the M. E. Church, has the full indorsement of this General Conference, and accurately defines our position in reference to any overtures which may proceed from that Church, having in them an official and proper recognition of this body.

"3. That the distinguished Commission now present, of the General Conference of the M. E. Church at Chicago in May, 1868, appointed by it specifically, to confer with Commissioners from the African M. E. Zion Church, to arrange for union with that body, and to treat with a similar Commission from any other Church which may desire a like union, cannot, in our judgment, be construed, without great violence, as having been constituted by that General Conference, a committee to bear its fraternal expressions to the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South.

"4. That we are highly gratified at the visit of the Commission as indicative of the return of proper Christian sentiments and relations between the two great branches of Northern and Southern Methodism, and that we extend to them personally our highest regards as brethren beloved in the Lord."

J. E. Evans moved to appoint a committee of nine to take this subject under consideration.

Bishop Janes said: "It is proper for me to say, before that motion is put, that of course we abide by what is said in the Journal of the General Conference, and yet I think it does not correctly represent the object of the appointment of this Commission. It was not appointed with the sole object of conferring with the Commission of the African M. E. Zion Church, but before its appointment this subject in question came up, and this Commission was appointed with the understanding that it was alike to the Methodist Churches throughout the country. Perhaps we have transcended our bounds in thus coming at the present time, and not waiting to be first approached on this subject. But we did not esteem ourselves so highly as to think that all these Churches should first knock for admission. We judged it proper to inform these Churches of the appointment of this Commission, and that it would give us pleasure to meet them. I think this explanation is due. Dr. Keener's remarks were justified by what he has read from the Journal."

The motion of J. E. Evans prevailed.

Bishop Janes rose and said: "My colleague thinks that I have made a mistake in my remarks concerning the Journal of the General Conference. I meant to say that I do not think the Journal represents fully the action of the Conference. The Commission was provided for in that resolution, but not appointed at that time."

A. L. P. Green, Trusten Polk, J. C. Keener, L. C. Garland, Robert Alexander, James Jackson, A. W. Wilson, G. W. Williams, and E. K. Miller, were appointed the committee to which the subject was referred.

The call was made for Reports of Special Committees, and none being presented, the Chair called for Petitions, Memorials, and Appeals. The Conferences were called in order, and the following responded:

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A. M. Shipp presented a memorial of G. W. Sullivan on the right of appeal on the part of laymen in certain cases. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

MOBILE CONFERENCE.—J. Hamilton presented a memorial from the Meridian District favoring the transfer to District-meetings the power to give and renew licenses to local preachers.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—A. R. Winfield presented a communication on the Home Monthly. Referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals.

The following resolutions were then presented, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire

into the propriety of inserting after line 2d, page 12, of the re  rrangement, or at the end of paragraph 16, page 71, in the Discipline, the following: "17. On the removal of any member of his charge to another, to write immediately informing the preacher in charge of the work to which such member has removed, whether with or without a certificate."

CHAS. TAYLOR,

H. P. WALKER.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire into the expediency of changing the Discipline, Chap. II., Sec. 2, page 50, last paragraph in the answer to Question 5, as follows: After the word "charge" strike out the phrase, "Last filled by him," and insert in place of it, "In which he resides." Then it will read thus: "When a traveling preacher is located he shall be amenable to the Quarterly Conference of the charge in which he resides until he presents his certificate of location to that or some other Quarterly Conference."

THOS. H. REED,

R. S. MORAN,

W. M. BARRINGER.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be requested to inquire into the expediency of amending the Discipline, (new arrangement,) page 15, Answer 1 to Question 4, eighth line after the word "Church," by adding the following words: "And they shall report the extent and result of their labors to the fourth Quarterly Conference."

W. H. BOBBITT,

B. CRAVEN,

N. F. REID,

T. M. JONES.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be requested to consider the propriety of fixing a limit as to the time within which, as a general rule, a certificate of Church-membership shall entitle a member to readmission into our Church.

J. E. EDWARDS,

B. CRAVEN.

Resolved, That so much of the revised Discipline as refers to the duty of stewards and the support of the ministry be, and the same is hereby, referred to the Special Committee on Finance.

A. G. BROWN,

D'ARCY PAUL,

A. R. WINFIELD,

TRUSTEN POLK.

Resolved, That the Committee on Books and Periodicals be instructed to consider and report upon the expediency of publishing a monthly

periodical devoted to the cause of Missions, to be under the editorial supervision of the Missionary Secretaries.

W. G. E. CUNNINGHAM,

J. C. KEENER,

J. HAMILTON.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be, and they are hereby, instructed to inquire into the propriety of so amending the Discipline, Chap. VI., Sec. 5, page 26, (new arrangement,) beginning after the word "care," by inserting the following: "Provided, that if in any case said committee should refuse or neglect to perform their duty, the preacher in charge shall proceed to investigate the 'report,' and if he is thereby convinced that the purity and peace of the Church requires a trial, he shall prepare a bill of charges and specifications himself."

T. L. BOSWELL,

J. M. MASK.

Resolved, That the Committee on Books and Periodicals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of getting up a map, showing the boundaries of our several Conferences.

D. SULLINS,

C. LONG,

J. M. McTEER,

L. M. LEE,

J. C. KEENER.

Resolved, That the Committee on Books and Periodicals be instructed to inquire into the propriety of reporting in favor of creating the office of "Book and Periodical Superintendent" in every Society, to be nominated by the preacher in charge, and elected by the Quarterly Conference annually, but the appointee to hold the office until a successor has been nominated and elected: his duties to be under the direction of, and in coöperation with, the preacher in charge, to assist in the circulation of the books and periodicals of the Church, and to be responsible to the Quarterly Conference of which he shall be *ex officio* a member.

A. L. P. GREEN,

GUILFORD JONES,

T. L. BOSWELL,

A. R. WINFIELD,

R. J. MORGAN,

MILTON BROWN,

G. G. DIBRELL,

W. C. JOHNSON.

Resolved, That the Committee on Books and Periodicals be, and they are hereby, requested to report upon the expediency and propriety of

enlarging the Nashville Advocate to double its present size, and the election of a corps of not less than three editors by this General Conference for the same, who shall devote their entire time to the interest of said paper.

F. W. EARNEST,
W. F. REID,
R. S. MORAN.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be, and the same is hereby, instructed to consider the propriety of adding the following provisions on the duties of Bishops after the word "institution," Ans. 2 of Quea. 3, Sec. 5, Chap II., page 61, of the Discipline, and when requested by an Annual Conference, to appoint a preacher to travel at large, and do such work as the Conference may direct.

H. P. WALKER,
C. W. MILLER.

The following resolutions were offered, read, and not adopted :

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire into the expediency of changing our marriage ceremony, so as to have the pronouncement of marriage made with civil as well as religious aspects; and also the expediency of removing therefrom the inquiry as to objections to the solemnization of the bans.

A. H. MITCHELL,
R. ABBEY,
THOMAS REED.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be, and they are hereby, instructed to inquire into the propriety of so amending the Book of Discipline, Chap. II., Sec. 3, page 45: For "four lay representatives, one of whom may be a local preacher," insert "one lay representative from each station, circuit, or mission, two of whom may be local preachers."

J. M. BINKLEY,
W. J. CLARK.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire into, and report upon, the propriety of altering the Discipline, Chap. III., Sec. 4, on page 104, fourth item in the first answer in that Section. Strike out the words, "at every quarterly-meeting," in the latter part of the first sentence, and insert, "at least once in every quarter," so as to read, 4. "Let the Lord's Supper be administered monthly, in every congregation, wherever it is practicable; and where it is not practicable, at least once in every quarter."

JOS. C. PINNIX,
J. C. SLOCUMB,
JOHN W. LEAK.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be instructed to inquire

and report, whether or not it was the intention of the General Conference, in establishing monthly Church-meetings, to do away with class-meetings; and also to inquire and report as to the expediency of requiring the preacher in charge to hold at least one class-meeting every month, and incorporating among the questions now asked in the Quarterly Conference this question, or one of similar import, of the preacher in charge, viz.: "Have you held a class-meeting, at least once a month, in your charge, and do you regularly and faithfully attend to this duty?"

R. H. POWELL,
J. R. ROGERS,
J. P. RALLS,
J. E. GROCE.

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal are hereby instructed to inquire into the propriety of amending our Discipline in Ans. 3 to Ques. 3, on page 75, in fifth line from the bottom, after the word "example," by the addition of the words, "Will you faithfully and constantly eschew the introduction of political questions in the services of the Church?"

W. M. RUSH,
THOS. M. FINNEY.

P. A. Peterson, P. Whitehead, and D'Arcy Paul offered a resolution concerning the solemnization of matrimony between divorced persons, which was referred to Committee on Revisal.

C. W. Miller offered resolutions proposing changes in the Ritual on Baptism. Referred to Committee on Ritual.

A. H. Redford presented certain music-books, which were referred to Committee on Sunday-school Tune-book.

J. P. Ralls and J. Mathews offered a resolution favoring the establishment of a paper for the youth of our Church. Referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals.

L. Pierce, S. Anthony, and J. S. Key offered a resolution on infant baptism and the relation of baptized children to the Church, which was read and laid on the table under the rule.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on the Religious Interests of the Colored People was taken up, acted on item by item, and adopted. (See p. 182.)

A resolution of A. L. P. Green, amended by W. H. Fleming, favoring the payment of expenses incurred in carrying into effect the provisions of this Report, was laid on the table.

The question on which Conference adjourned on yesterday was taken up, and the motion of W. M. Byrd to refer the resolution of F. E. Pitts and L. M. Lee to the Committee on Itinerancy, was carried.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on Revision, laid on the table on yesterday, was taken up and discussed at some length, when the previous question was moved by A. Monroe and sustained by the Conference. The Report was adopted. (See page 182.)

A resolution of T. S. Moorman and S. Bobo, proposing a change in the General Rules, was offered, read, and laid on the table under the rule.

A paper submitted by W. S. Baird and A. W. Wilson, on rebaptism, was read and referred to Committee on Ritual.

The Chair announced the Committee on the Pastoral Address, in connection with the Bishops, as follows: Clerical—O. Fisher, E. H. Myers, A. H. Mitchell, H. A. C. Walker, J. B. McFerrin; Lay—D'Arcy Paul, A. H. Colquitt, J. E. Groce, T. J. Magruder, R. J. Morgan.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, Conference adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Thursday Morning, May 12, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by A. Hunter.

The Minutes were read and approved.

W. Headen, lay delegate from the West Texas Conference; J. W. Harris, lay delegate from the Tennessee Conference; O. R. Blue, clerical delegate from the Montgomery Conference; J. M. Swinford, lay Reserve delegate from the Pacific Conference, in place of W. R. Bain, appeared and took their seats.

G. G. Dibrell, lay delegate from the Tennessee Conference; J. C. Mitchell, lay delegate from the St. Louis Conference; L. L. Mack, lay delegate from the Arkansas Conference; C. G. Epperson, lay delegate from the Missouri Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence on account of business; Trusten Polk, lay delegate from the St. Louis Conference, asked and obtained leave of temporary absence on account of official business; F. W. Earnest, lay delegate from the Holston Conference, obtained leave of absence on account of family affliction.

J. E. Edwards, chairman of Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 1 of the majority, and also the Report of a minority of said committee, which were read, and made the order of the day for Friday at 10 o'clock A.M. They are as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 1.

The Committee on Itinerancy having considered the resolution signed by J. E. Edwards and L. C. Garland, proposing a change in Par. 2,

Ques. 3, Sec. 5, page 60, of our Book of Discipline, which was referred to the committee, with instructions to inquire into the expediency of making the change proposed, and to report the action of the committee to the Conference in time to make it the order of the day for 10 o'clock, Friday, May 13, beg leave to report the following resolution, as the result of their deliberations, sustained by a majority of the committee, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Itinerancy deem it inexpedient to recommend the adoption of that portion of the resolution signed by J. E. Edwards and L. C. Garland, which contemplates a change in the time of the pastoral term.

JOHN E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

MINORITY REPORT.

J. E. Edwards, A. T. Mann, J. B. Cottrell, and James Mackey, on behalf of the *minority* of the Committee on Itinerancy, beg leave respectfully to differ with the *majority* in the report submitted to the Conference on the resolution signed J. E. Edwards and L. C. Garland, asking a change in Par. 2, Ques. 3, Sec. 5, page 60, of our Discipline, and submit for the adoption of the Conference the following resolution, in lieu of the resolution reported by the majority of the committee, viz.:

Resolved, That the General Conference do concur in the change proposed, in Par. 2, Ques. 3, Sec. 5, page 60, of our Discipline, as recited in the resolution, signed by J. E. Edwards and L. C. Garland.

JOSEPH B. COTTRELL,

JOHN E. EDWARDS,

A. T. MANN,

JAMES MACKEY.

W. M. Rush, chairman of Committee on Books and Periodicals, presented Reports Nos. 2, 3, 4, of that committee, which were read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 2.

Your committee, to whom was referred the memorial of J. G. Jones, of Mississippi, on the subject of a more general circulation of our Church-literature, would report that, having carefully examined the paper, we cannot recommend to this General Conference the adoption of such system of agencies as is proposed.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 3.

The attention of your committee being directed by the General Book Agent, in his Quadrennial Exhibit, to a claim which we hold against the Government of the United States, would respectfully report, that,

Whereas, by the occupation of the Southern Methodist Publishing House, in Nashville, during the war, by the authorities of the United States, a just claim has inured to the Publishing House against the United States, for rents and damages; therefore,

Resolved, That a Commission be appointed by the General Conference to present and prosecute a claim for rents and damages to the Southern Methodist Publishing House against the Government of the United States.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 4.

Your committee, to whom was referred the memorial from Louisville, asking for the removal of the Publishing House from Nashville to Louisville, beg leave most respectfully to report back that paper to the General Conference for its action.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

The subject of the Louisville memorial was made the order of the day for Tuesday, May 17, at 10 o'clock.

J. Hamilton, chairman of Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 3 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rule. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, NO. 3.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to offer Report No. 3:

Your committee have had before them sundry memorials upon the subject of the appointment of Superintendents of Sunday-schools, and recommend to change Ans. 2 to Ques. 4, Sec. 3, Chap. II., page 9, new arrangement, so as to read: "To supervise the instruction of children, and the interests of Sunday-schools, and, upon nomination by the preacher in charge, to annually elect the Superintendents."

Also, a paper proposing to make the election of stewards annual. With this your committee concur, and recommend that Ans. 1, Ques. 4, Sec. 15, Chap. III., page 18, new arrangement, be amended by adding the words "to be elected annually."

Your committee recommend to amend Ans. 1, Ques. 1, Sec. 2, Chap. II., page 6, new arrangement, by striking out the words "within its bounds," and inserting the words "with such Conference."

Also, to amend Ans. 3, Ques. 1, Sec. 2, Chap. II., page 6, new arrangement, by striking out the words "and relations."

The committee also recommend that the Answer to Ques. 1, Sec. 3, of Chap. II., page 8, new arrangement, be amended by striking out "Meetings" and inserting "Conferences."

Also, that Ans. 9, Ques. 4, Sec. 3, of Chap. II., page 9, new arrangement, be changed to Ques. 5, to read as follows: "What order of business shall be observed in the Quarterly Conferences?"

Also, that the words "of which he may be, *ex officio*, a member," in Ans. 2, Sec. 4, Chap. II., page 10, new arrangement, be stricken out.

The committee had before them sundry memorials requesting that trustees be made members of the Quarterly Conferences. We find that this had already been done by the new arrangement.

The resolution of W. A. McCarty and others, requesting the addition to the business of the Quarterly Conference of the question, "Has the sacrament of the Lord's Supper been regularly administered?" was non-concurred in.

The recommendation in the memorial from the Virginia Conference, that to the questions asked in an Annual Conference, be added the question, "What ministers are received from other Churches?" was not concurred in.

The recommendation in the same memorial, that the rule in regard to arbitrations for the settlement of questions that may arise between members of the Church, be restored to the Discipline, *is concurred in*.

The recommendation contained in the memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Piedmont, Baltimore Conference, proposing a division of Ques. 1, in the business of a Quarterly Conference, is now in the new arrangement.

The preamble and resolution of F. W. Earnest, Holston Conference, concerning local preachers, was *not* concurred in.

Also, the resolution of R. S. Moran and N. F. Reid, proposing to strike out Ans. 9 to Ques. 1, Sec. 5, Chap. II., page 59, of Discipline, was *not* concurred in.

The memorial from the Virginia Conference, requesting farther legislation on the subject of temperance; also a resolution on the same subject, signed by T. L. Boswell and J. M. Mask, together with a memorial from the Visalia District-meeting, Pacific Conference, calling for additional legislation on the subject of dancing; also a paper on the same subject from the Mobile Conference, are returned to the General Conference, with the request that they be referred to the Committee on the Pastoral Address.

Respectfully submitted.

J. HAMILTON, Chairman.

The Chair then called for Petitions, Memorials, and Appeals.

J. S. Martin presented a memorial of the Baltimore delegation, asking the Publishing House to be transferred to Baltimore. Referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals, ordered to be published in

the Daily Christian Advocate, and made the order of the day for Tuesday, at 10 o'clock.

A communication was received from Bishop Early, expressing a hope that he will be at the Conference before its close.

A communication from Mount Sterling (Ky.) District-meeting of colored people was received, and referred to Committee on Religious Interests of Colored People.

An invitation was received from the Rev. Dr. Collins, President of the State Female College, to attend a complimentary entertainment to the Conference, May 13, at 8 P.M., at the College.

A. G. Brown, J. E. Edwards, and D'Arcy Paul offered a resolution on change of Ritual. Referred to Committee on Ritual.

O. Fisher and T. C. Barton offered a resolution on the trial of a traveling preacher. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

The delegation from Montgomery Conference offered a resolution favoring the ordaining of ministers by the President of a Conference, in absence of a Bishop, which was read and laid on the table.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revisal be, and they are hereby, instructed to inquire into the expediency of adding the following words to the answer to Ques. 1, Sec. 3, Chap. II., to wit: "It shall be the duty of all the members of the Quarterly Conference to attend its sessions, unless providentially hindered."

W. P. HARRISON,

W. J. PARKS.

B. H. Spencer and C. I. Vandeventer offered a resolution respecting the standards of Methodism, which was read and referred to the College of Bishops.

C. Taylor and W. J. Clark offered a resolution on statistics, which was read and referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals.

On motion of R. S. Moran, the Committee on Books and Periodicals was instructed to inquire into the expediency of publishing a Quarterly Review.

The Chair announced the committee of nine on the Circulation of the Holy Scriptures, as follows: C. I. Vandeventer, J. E. Evans, T. L. Boswell, A. R. Boone, W. V. Tudor, I. P. Garvin, T. W. Moore, G. A. Dannelly, H. Jewell.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Revisal was called up.

J. E. Edwards moved the adoption of all that part which refers to District Conferences. It was taken up item by item.

W. M. Prottsman moved to amend Answer 1, by striking out "a," and inserting "one or more"—which motion did not prevail.

D. R. McAnally moved to strike out "shall," and insert "may"—which motion was lost.

Answer 1 was then adopted.

A. L. P. Green moved to strike out "and such," to the end of Answer 2, and insert "all the members of the Quarterly Conference."

M. S. Andrews moved as a substitute, "said Conference shall be composed of all the official members within the District and four electors chosen by each Quarterly Conference."

On motion of A. R. Winfield, the substitute and amendment were laid on the table.

S. W. Moore moved to amend by striking out all after "local," and inserting "the class-leaders, and stewards, and superintendents of Sunday-schools, and one member from every church, to be elected by said church." This motion was laid on the table.

A. R. Winfield called for the previous question—the call was sustained, the question was put, and the second Answer was adopted.

Answer 3 was read, and P. A. Peterson moved to amend by adding the words "from among the traveling elders of the District." This amendment, on motion of A. R. Winfield, was laid on the table.

The third Answer was then adopted.

Answer 4 was then adopted.

R. S. Moran moved to amend the fourth item in Answer 5, by adding the following words: "and report to the Annual Conference." This amendment, on motion of A. R. Winfield, was laid on the table.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the items 2 and 4 were transposed.

The fifth Answer was then adopted.

R. S. Moran moved to amend Answer 6, by inserting before the word "provided" the following words: "and also to elect one of these four to serve on the Finance Committee at the next session of the Annual Conference." This amendment, on motion of A. R. Winfield, was laid on the table.

W. H. Kilpatrick moved to strike out the proviso. A motion to lay the amendment on the table did not prevail. The question was put, and the amendment was lost.

Answer 6 was then adopted.

W. M. Rush moved as Answer 7: "To license and renew the license of local preachers, and recommend to the Annual Conferences proper persons for admission into the traveling connection, and proper persons for deacons' and elders' orders." After considerable discussion, A. R. Winfield moved to lay it on the table. The motion was lost. The question was then put on the amendment, and it was not adopted.

The hour for adjournment drawing near, Bishop Janes was invited to address the Conference. He came forward and said :

"I very much regret that circumstances make it necessary for me to leave your Conference and your city this afternoon. It would have been a very high gratification to me to have enjoyed your society ; especially am I interested in witnessing your proceedings, as this is the first Conference in which I have seen the action of lay delegation, and I confess that what I have witnessed has given me much pleasure. I think I can say that I anticipate, though it is not positively certain, that the laity will be associated with us in the highest legislations of our Church. I especially regret the necessity of leaving at this time, since the Committee on Public Worship has invited us to preach. I wish it understood that I do not decline from any other reason but that I am compelled to be absent on other important business. I hope it will be understood. It would certainly be a pleasure to me to remain and to listen as I have done to others of you.

"I desire to acknowledge thankfully the generous hospitality extended to me by the committee, and I wish to acknowledge the official and personal courtesy extended to me as a body, and by a very large part of the Conference as individuals. I think that I can say, in behalf of those whom we represent, that it will give us pleasure to reciprocate it at any time. I again invoke the blessing of our common Parent and our one Saviour upon the individuals of this Conference, and the Church you represent. May the blessing of God be and abide with you all ! Amen."

The Bishop having taken his seat, Dr. Harris arose and said :

"I desire to say that I have spent the last two days with great personal satisfaction. I came here a stranger, acquainted with only two of your body, and they received me as old friends, and I reciprocate the feelings which they expressed ; and now, in leaving, I desire to express to you, and through you to the committee, my profound thanks for the Christian courtesy which you have extended to me. I shall bear it ever in mind. And I unite with the Bishop in invoking the richest blessings upon you and upon your Church."

On motion of Jesse Boring, the session was extended to finish action on the Report.

Answer 7 was then adopted.

P. A. Peterson proposed the insertion of another answer, to be numbered 7: "The District Conference shall have power to elect the trustees of District parsonages, and to authorize the sale or removal of said parsonages, when it may be necessary." This was not adopted.

J. E. Edwards moved a reconsideration of the vote to adopt Answer 2. This motion did not prevail.

On motion of E. H. Myers, all that part of the Report referring to District Conferences was adopted.

The last paragraph was read, and pending its discussion, Conference adjourned with the doxology, and the benediction by Bishop Janes.

Friday Morning, May 13, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Paine in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by W. Barringer.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop Paine, on behalf of the College of Bishops, begged to be excused from serving on the Committee on the Pastoral Address, they being unable to attend to that matter.

Bishop Pierce took the chair.

On motion of J. C. Keener and A. W. Wilson, the Committee on the Pastoral Address was discharged, and the Bishops were requested to prepare the same.

A. C. Allen, Reserve clerical delegate from the Memphis Conference, in place of G. W. D. Harris; and J. D. Giddings, lay delegate from the Texas Conference, appeared and took their seats.

The Chair then called for Reports of Standing Committees.

J. E. Edwards, chairman of Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read, and, on motion of L. M. Lee, was laid on the table for the present. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 2.

The committee has considered the memorial "of the official members of Trinity Station," Richmond, Va., asking "for the abolishment of the office of Presiding Elder, so far as it relates to the larger towns, and the admission of the lay element to the Bishops' Council, as a part of the appointing power of the Church," and recommend that the General Conference do not concur in the petition of the memorialists.

The paper, also, signed S. T. Moorman, Richmond, Va., praying a change in the number of appointments allowable in a Presiding Elder's District, with other changes in relation to administration, has been considered, and the committee recommend non-concurrence on the part of the General Conference.

The resolution, signed by F. E. Pitts and L. M. Lee, recommending a change, where practicable, in our circuits, so as to embrace four regular appointments, with preaching on Saturday as well as Sunday, with

class-meetings, love-feasts, etc., has been considered, and the committee recommend that the General Conference do not concur in the resolution.

JNO. E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

W. M. Rush, chairman of Committee on Books and Periodicals, presented Reports Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, which were read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 5.

Your committee having had under consideration that item in the Exhibit of the Agent of the Publishing House relating to the New Orleans Depository, would beg leave to recommend that it be continued under the supervision of the Publishing House, so long as it shall be self-sustaining and may be deemed to be useful to the Church by the Book Agent.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 6

The Committee on Books and Periodicals report that they do not deem it advisable to undertake the publication of a weekly newspaper, as proposed in the resolution of C. K. Marshall and A. M. Shipp, referred to them.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 7.

The Committee on Books and Periodicals having had under consideration that portion of the Report of the Agent of the Publishing House relating to the Christian Advocate, and also a resolution of F. W. Earnest and others, suggesting an enlargement of the paper to double its present size, and the election of a corps of not less than three editors, report for adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the Christian Advocate ought to be enlarged, and that the enlargement be made so soon as the Agent may deem it expedient.

2. That the size of the enlarged form be left to the discretion of the Agent, and the editorial management, as heretofore, be under the charge of one editor.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 8.

The Committee on Books and Periodicals have had referred to them a memorial from the delegation of the Pacific Conference, in reference to a series of catechisms for the children of the Church, and beg leave

to refer the memorial back to the General Conference, with the recommendation that it be referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

The committee also recommend the reference to the Committee on Sunday-schools of so much of the Report of the Agent of the Publishing House as relates to the Sunday-school Visitor and the proposed publication of a monthly paper for teachers in Sunday-schools, and an eclectic catalogue of Sunday-school publications.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 9.

The Committee on Books and Periodicals, to whom the subject of church-architecture was referred, have considered the same, and, as the result of their deliberations, have adopted the following resolutions :

Resolved, 1. That the Book Agent be instructed to procure, in connection with the Book Editor, the preparation of a manual on church-architecture, adapted to the wants and character of Southern Methodism, both in city and country, and particularly with the view of improvement in the design and construction of houses of worship, at comparatively small cost.

2. That the Book Agent publish said manual, when procured, in a small, cheap volume.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

Reports Nos. 10 and 11 of the same committee were also presented, read, and laid on the table for the present. They are as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 10.

The Committee on Books and Periodicals have had before them the recommendation of the Agent of the Publishing House to publish a monthly periodical combining the features of a Review and Magazine ; and also a resolution offered by P. A. Peterson and E. H. Myers, proposing a monthly combining the features of a Religious Magazine and a Theological and Literary Review ; and also a paper offered by J. P. Ralls and J. Mathews, recommending the publication of a monthly periodical particularly adapted to the youth of the Church.

Upon the whole subject thus referred to them, the committee report for adoption the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Agent of the Publishing House be authorized and instructed to publish a monthly magazine, of high grade, to be called The Home Circle, of which an editor shall be appointed, who shall be elected by the General Conference.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 11.

Your committee, to whom was referred the communication of Prof. A. B. Stark, editor of *The Home Monthly*, having considered the same, would recommend that the proposition of Prof. Stark be accepted, and that the Book Agent be authorized to make a fair and equitable arrangement with Prof. Stark for his interest in *The Home Monthly*.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

J. Hamilton, chairman of Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 4 of the committee, which was read: that portion which relates to the transfer of certain papers to other committees was adopted, and the remainder of the Report was laid on the table for the present. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, NO. 4.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to offer Report No. 4:

Your committee had under consideration a memorial from the Montgomery Conference respecting local Church-organizations, and do *not* judge any legislation is required upon that subject.

They have also considered the resolution referred to them, signed by N. F. Reid, R. S. Moran, and W. M. Barringer, proposing a change in Ans. 3 to Ques. 4, Sec. 11, Chap. III., page 15, new arrangement, by striking out the words "last filled by him," and inserting "in which he resides." In this your committee *concur*.

Also, that the word "other," in same answer, before the words "Quarterly Conference," be *stricken out*.

A resolution was referred to the committee, signed by W. P. Harrison and W. J. Parks, proposing to add the words, "It shall be the duty of all members of the Quarterly Conference to attend its sessions, unless providentially hindered," to Chap. II., Sec. 3, and Ques. 1. In this recommendation your committee do *not* concur.

The committee had before them a memorial from the Baltimore Conference, and also one from the Jefferson Station, Trinity Conference, proposing a change in the name of the Church, by striking from it the word "South." Both of these papers are reported back to the General Conference, to be considered in Committee of the Whole.

Also, a paper signed by the delegation of the North Carolina Conference, proposing that Chap. II., Sec. 5, page 61, of the Discipline, be changed, by inserting after the word "care," the words, "or to any other appropriate work, in which he may be useful as a minister of the gospel among us." This paper is also returned to the General Conference, with the request that it be referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

Also, a resolution from the Piedmont Station, Baltimore Conference, requesting that the right to nominate trustees to fill vacancies that may occur in Boards, may be vested, by specific legislation, in the preacher in charge, etc. Your committee are of the opinion that *no farther* legislation is necessary—Sec. 16, page 19, being sufficiently explicit.

We recommend that the words "in joint" be stricken out of Ans. 5 to Ques. 2 of the same section (16).

The paper signed by H. P. Walker and C. W. Miller, proposing a change in Ans. 2 to Ques. 3, Sec. 3, Chap. II., page 61, of the Discipline, is reported back to the General Conference, with the request that it be referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

The resolution signed by D. R. McAnally and others, requesting that the Catechism be left out of the Discipline, was concurred in.

A resolution from the South Carolina Conference, requesting that provision be made for the election of trustees for District parsonages, was before the committee, and in compliance with it, we recommend the adoption of the following as Ans. 6 to Ques. 2, Sec. 16, page 19, new arrangement: "Trustees of District parsonages shall be appointed by the District Conferences, upon nomination by the Presiding Elder, and shall be responsible to the Quarterly Conference of the charge within which the property may be located."

Respectfully submitted.

J. HAMILTON, Chairman.

S. Bobo, chairman of Committee on Sunday-schools, presented Report No 2 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rule. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 2.

Your Committee on Sunday-schools respectfully submit, as supplementary to Report No. 1, in which a Sunday-school Secretary was recommended, the following resolution:

Resolved, That each Annual Conference elect a Corresponding Secretary to represent the Sunday-school interests of *that* Conference to the Sunday-school Secretary elected by the General Conference.

SIMPSON BOBO.

Also, Report No. 3 of the same committee, which was read: the first paragraph, referring to Summers's Commentary, was adopted, and the remainder was laid on the table for the present. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 3.

Your committee submit as their Report No. 3, the following.

Resolved, That we hail with pleasure the accession to our Sunday-

school text-books, of the Rev. Dr. T. O. Summers's valuable Commentaries on the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, and recommend their use by our teachers in the preparation of their Sunday-school lessons.

Your committee respectfully return to the General Conference the resolution from the Montgomery Annual Conference, asking that the Discipline prescribe a method for "organizing and relating the Sunday-school to the Church," with the recommendation that the request be not concurred in by the General Conference.

Respectfully submitted.

SIMPSON BOBO, Chairman.

Also, Report No. 4 of the same committee, which was read and laid on the table. It is as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 4.

Your committee have considered the various resolutions referred to them as to the expediency of providing for the election of Sunday-school Superintendents by the Quarterly Conferences, and beg leave to report that, in the judgment of your committee, such provision is not at this time expedient.

SIMPSON BOBO, Chairman.

J. E. Evans, chairman of Committee on Religious Interests of the Colored People, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE RELIGIOUS INTERESTS OF THE COLORED PEOPLE, NO. 2.

The Committee on the Religious Interests of the Colored People beg leave to submit Report No. 2 :

The committee have had under consideration the memorial from Mount Sterling District-meeting, in reference to perfecting the organization of the colored people, as provided for in the Discipline, and also suggesting a *name* for said organization ; and report that the subject-matter of said memorial, except the *name*, has been already reported upon, and adopted by this Conference. In reference to the name of the contemplated organization, your committee are of opinion that they will naturally take the name of "Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, South," being the colored members of the M. E. Church, South, simply set up to themselves. But when said organization is perfected, they will have control of the question of *name*, as well as of all other matters pertaining to a complete and independent Church, and may therefore act in that matter as in their judgment will promote the best interests of the colored people.

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

The hour for the order of the day having arrived, a motion of M. S. Andrews to suspend it was lost.

Report No. 1 of the Majority of the Committee on Itinerancy was then called up and read—also, the Report of the Minority.

E. W. Sehon moved the adoption of the Report of the Majority.

J. E. Edwards moved, as a substitute, the adoption of the Report of the Minority.

After discussion by R. A. Young, J. B. Cottrell, and J. E. Edwards, in favor of the substitute, and by W. A. McCarty, E. W. Sehon, A. R. Winfield, and L. Pierce, against it, R. S. Moran moved that J. E. Edwards and L. C. Garland, movers of the resolution referred to the Committee on Itinerancy, be allowed to speak on this question without regard to the fifteen-minutes' rule. This motion did not prevail; but, on motion of C. K. Marshall, they were allowed to speak half an hour each on this question.

J. E. Edwards resumed his speech, and at the expiration of the time, on motion of J. C. Keener, he was allowed fifteen minutes more.

The discussion was continued by T. E. Bond, A. S. Andrews, and W. M. Rush, in opposition to the substitute.

J. C. Deming asked and obtained leave of absence.

L. C. Garland was recognized as having the floor.

The following dispatch was received, read, and the Secretary was instructed to forward an affirmative response:

CHARLESTON, S. C., May 12, 1870.

To the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South:

The South Carolina State Sunday-school Convention send heart-felt and prayerful greetings to the General Conference at Memphis: Fathers and Brethren:—If your hearts are as our hearts, give us your hands. Amen.

WM. H. HICKS, Pres't.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Saturday Morning, May 14, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Pierce in the chair.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Wightman took the chair, and called for Reports of Standing Committees.

W. M. Rush, chairman of Committee on Books and Periodicals, presented Report No. 12 of that committee, which was read, and, on motion of A. Monroe, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 12.

Your committee having considered the resolution offered by R. S. Moran, instructing them to inquire into the expediency of publishing a Quarterly Review for our Church, beg leave to report that, in their judgment, such a publication is inexpedient at present.

Your committee have also had under consideration the resolution of W. G. E. Cunyningham and others, instructing them to inquire into the expediency of publishing a monthly periodical devoted to the cause of Missions, to be under the editorial supervision of the Missionary Secretaries, and would report that, in their judgment, such a publication is inexpedient; but would recommend the Missionary Secretaries to make a liberal use of the columns of our Church-papers.

Also, your committee having considered a resolution offered by D. Sullins and others, in relation to a map of the boundaries of the Annual Conferences, beg leave to report that, in their judgment, such a map is not in sufficient demand to justify its manufacture and publication.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

J. Hamilton, chairman of Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 5 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rule. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, NO. 5.

Your committee have had under consideration a paper signed by R. W. Lovett, A. H. Colquitt, and James Jackson, asking that the words "one-fourth of whom may be local preachers," in Chap. II., Sec. 1, and Ans. 1, page 5, new arrangement; and the words "one of whom may be a local preacher," in Sec. 2, Ans. 1, of the same chapter, may be stricken out. The committee so far concur in this request as to recommend that the first sentence named be so changed as to read, "one of whom may be a preacher."

A paper was referred to the committee, signed by Charles Taylor and H. P. Walker, requesting that at the end of Chap. II., Sec. 7, Ans. 16, page 71, of Discipline, the following words be added: "On the removal of any member of his charge to another, to write immediately, informing the preacher in charge of the work to which such member has removed, whether with or without a certificate." With this request your committee recommend *non-concurrence*.

A paper signed by P. A. Peterson, Paul Whitehead, and D'Arcy Paul, was referred, asking a rule to govern our ministers in celebrating the rite of marriage in the case of divorced persons. With this request the committee recommend that the Conference do *not* concur.

Also, a resolution signed by J. E. Edwards and B. Craven, requesting the General Conference to fix a limit within which letters of membership shall entitle the holders to be received into the Church. Your committee think it inexpedient to fix such limit.

A resolution signed by R. Lane, J. M. Binkley, and others, was before the committee, asking that the word "thirty," in Part II., Sec. 5, Art. 1, of Discipline, be substituted by the word "fifteen." Such change was judged inexpedient.

A paper was referred to the committee, signed by E. K. Miller, T. C. Barton, and others, asking for the preparation and adoption of a form for recognition of the Church-membership of baptized children, and the assumption by themselves of their baptismal obligations. Your committee find this already provided in the reërrangement of the Discipline.

A resolution signed by A. G. Haygood and T. M. Meriwether, proposing a change in Chap. II., Sec. 4, page 57, of the Discipline, relative to the call made in Quarterly Conferences upon trustees, was before the committee, and in its judgment such call is already provided for.

A second resolution, signed by A. G. Haygood and J. Boring, asked an amendment in Part I., Chap. IV., Sec. 4, page 127, of the Discipline, by inserting after the word "Church" the following: "Persons holding certificates of dismission from our Church shall be amenable to the authorities of those charges in which they may reside." Your committee recommend *non-concurrence* with the request.

The committee recommend that in Ans. 3, Sec. 5, Chap. VI., page 27, new arrangement, after the words "of trial" the words "suspension or" be inserted. Also, that at the close of Answer 3 the following be added: "In cases of suspension, the suspended person shall not be restored until satisfactory evidence be given of repentance and reformation, unless the innocence of the accused shall have been made apparent."

A memorial by G. W. Sullivan, of South Carolina, was referred to the committee, asking that the *right of appeal* be given to *prosecutors*, and especially to laymen, when dissatisfied with the decision of a Quarterly Conference in a trial. Your committee are of the opinion that the request cannot be granted.

Respectfully submitted.

J. HAMILTON, Chairman.

L. C. Garland, chairman of Committee on Education, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, NO. 1.

The assertion that Methodism is unfriendly to learning, or that at

any time it has disdained to avail itself of its advantages, is a libel upon a Church which was originated within the walls of one of the most venerable and renowned universities of the world—a Church whose founder was a man of extensive, and varied, and accurate knowledge, and who, to the end of his life, did all in his power to improve the intellectual as well as the spiritual *status* of his followers. Mr. Wesley was a scholar; but—what was far better—he was a holy man of God—a man who, with the great Apostle of the Gentiles, “counted all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus his Lord”—a man who knew how to hold learning within its legitimate sphere, and to apply it to its proper ends. He was also a reformer of the corruptions and evils brought upon the Church of England by pride, and formalism, and self-indulgence, and philosophy, falsely so called. As was to be expected, the high, the noble, the worldly-minded, the rich, the sensual, the wise in their own conceit, had no ear to lend to doctrines and teachings like his; and he was forced to turn aside to the humble, the poor, the ignorant, and the despised. In this fact we make our boast, for in this he had the *imprimatur* of the great Head of the Church, who laid it down as one of the infallible marks of his kingdom, “that unto the poor the gospel is preached”—an evidence, this, of apostolicity worth all the lines of pretended prelatiical descent drawn up in the pride and the fancy of pretentious men. And whenever we shall lose the spirit of Wesley—his devotedness to the temporal and eternal welfare of the poor; whenever we shall so modify his system as to fail to thrust out into the work of the ministry, godly men, men of one business, and that the business of spreading scriptural holiness throughout these lands, and carrying the gospel, in its simplicity and purity, to the door of every man who will hear it, we shall have lost one of the features of our conformity to the Apostolic Church, and you may then write “Ichabod” upon all the institutions peculiar to Methodism.

Whilst, then, from the force of circumstances, Mr. Wesley’s followers were drawn chiefly from the ranks of lower life, and were, for the most part, poor and unlearned; and while he preached to them nothing but the gospel in its utmost simplicity, and determined to know among them nothing but Christ and him crucified, yet his Journal, his positive declarations upon the subject, and his establishment of schools, show that he felt at heart a deep solicitude for the intellectual as well as the moral elevation of his people. And the very system which he adopted for this end, has been perpetuated, and modified, and enlarged by his followers in England, until the intellectual *status* of the Church

is not inferior to that of any other, and until Methodism in England has become a social and moral power, respected and felt throughout the realm.

And just so it has been in America. The simple, heart-felt, experimental, self-sacrificing religion we preach, has never been, and will never be, popular with the world. Our mission was at first chiefly to the middle and lower orders of society. We followed emigration to the very verge of civilization, and preached the gospel in the remotest and darkest corners of the land. But our founders were not unmindful of the intellectual condition of those whom they had brought to the foot of the cross. Though not very successful in this line of effort, yet Bishop Asbury attempted the establishment of schools. Not long after his time, the Church became more deeply sensible of the power of education either to evil or to good, and waked up more fully to the necessity of educating her own sons and daughters, if she would keep them in sympathy and union with herself. Our Methodist children were educated at institutions either under the direction of other denominations of Christians or under the direction of the State. In the former case, they were drawn away, but too often, into the Communion of those by whom they had been fostered; and in the latter, into the ranks of the ungodly and the profane. It thus became, as it continues this day to be, a solemn and imperative duty laid upon the Church to educate its own youth. In the discharge of this obligation, colleges have sprung up to the number of about forty within the bounds of this General Conference. It is even questionable whether we have not overleaped our object and inflicted an injury upon the education of the Church by multiplying our colleges to an extent which has prevented us from making any one of them as complete and useful as we might desire it to be. A half-dozen judiciously-located institutions of learning, having concentrated upon them the money and patronage which have been distributed among the forty, would have served our purpose better—have given a higher character to the education of the Church, and have met more perfectly the demands of the age. If the number cannot now be reduced, let the Church take warning from the past, and in the future avoid increasing the evils arising from this source, by declining to erect additional colleges, excepting where they may be absolutely required; and to repair the mischief already done, let it address itself with earnestness and energy to the proper establishment of the institutions already under its patronage.

We have read with gratification the Reports sent up from a number of the colleges under the patronage of the Church. We feared that,

amidst the wreck and ruin brought upon the country by the devastations of war, none of our institutions were at present self-sustaining. But the facts in regard to several show that they are out of debt, and are carrying on their operations without the creation of new debts; yet those in the best condition are sorely suffering from the want of funds to enlarge their capacity for usefulness. We trust the liberality of our people will furnish the requisite amounts speedily.

But what has given us most gratification is the moral and religious condition of our schools. It was reported of one of them, that there had never passed over it a single year without a revival of religion; and that of the students who had entered it from the first of its operations until now, about two-thirds had been converted to God, and had led lives consistent with their religious profession. No wonder the Faculty had never, since the reöpening of its halls after the war, had occasion to enforce the discipline of the institution by the suspension or the dismissal of a solitary student. And in this regard the institution referred to is not singular, for, without exception, a like satisfactory condition is reported from all the other institutions heard from.

We dare say that specific reports from our other institutions, had they reached the committee, would have shown the most of them, both male and female, to be in a like state of moral soundness and usefulness. What clearer evidence could we demand of God's approbation upon our efforts to train up in his nurture and admonition the children of the Church? Is not our educational enterprise in this, its most important aspect, viz., the preservation of the morals and the development of the Christian sympathies of the young, a great and glorious success?

It is amazing that our people do not consider these facts in their true significance, and that so many of them persist in patronizing institutions of learning where the principles of their children are corrupted and their habits vitiated, or where, if their morals are preserved, they lose their sympathy for the Church of their fathers. This must be because of a supposed superiority in the educational appointments of the institutions they patronize. If such be really the fact, the deficiencies in our own institutions ought to be removed, and they ought to be elevated in character until our people shall prefer to patronize them over any others in the land. It will not do, in the support of our institutions, to depend upon the sectarianism of Methodists. The truth is, they have too little of it—too little of that sectarianism which loves the Church for the Church's sake. Far better would it be for the institutions of the Church if we had more of this spirit of sectarianism

among us. If we loved the Methodist Church more, because it is *our* Church, we would rally around its institutions and support them, despite of any deficiencies that may temporarily attach to them; and in that case, through unity of effort, such deficiencies would be most likely to be speedily removed.

Again, our people who patronize other institutions rather than their own, cannot be sufficiently impressed with the fact that an education is purchased at too dear a price, when that price is the wreck of moral character, or the loss of the Christian sympathies of early life. What thanks does a father owe to an institution of learning that returns to him his son, it may be, with all its blushing honors, thick and fresh upon his brow, and yet that son a profligate?

Never was there a greater mistake than that which is becoming so prevalent at the present day, that mere intellectual culture is of itself adequate to exalt the virtue and secure the happiness of a people. It was never so at any period of the world. The contrary is susceptible of the clearest proof from the history of our race. In all nations, the periods of greatest literary distinction have been the periods of greatest moral corruption; as witness the Periclesian age in Greece, the Augustan age in Rome, the Elizabethan in England, the Republican in France, and the present in America. Education was never more widely diffused throughout the United States than now. Never was there more ado about it. Never were institutions so multiplied. Learning was never more highly valued and sought after, as a means of reducing the laws of nature, and the properties of matter, to human control, and contributing to national and individual wealth and power. And this education has not been wholly from under the control of Christianity. It has partially felt its restraining influence; and yet, with this partial restraint upon its natural tendencies, what is the result? Has the virtue of the people increased with their knowledge? Are our public men more patriotic, more self-denying, more honorable, more true to compacts, and more trustworthy than they were fifty years ago? Are the morals of the people improved? Is there less of crime and lawlessness in proportion to population? Alas! to all such inquiries there comes up a negative response which is well-nigh universal. And yet education is, with a vast number of persons, the agency which is to bring us to the perfectibility, so called, of our nature; and the question, in some sections of the country, is even raised of exalting education by totally divorcing it from religion. Fatal delusion, this! And, if it prevails, education will have become the Moloch, upon whose altars will be sacrificed the spiritual and eternal interests of our poster-

ity. And that Methodists should prefer for their children an education which is out of sympathy with all forms of Christianity, or if not so, which is at least unfriendly to their own religious principles and polity, is a folly we did not expect, and for which we know not how adequately to account. Be it therefore

Resolved by this General Conference, 1. That it is the duty and interest of Methodists to maintain and patronize the educational institutions of their own Church.

2. That as far as we have knowledge of the institutions of the Church by specific Reports, they are all eminently worthy of the confidence and patronage of the people.

3. That where there is any inferiority in an institution of the Church, compared with other institutions of like grade, arising from the want of libraries, apparatus, and cabinets of Natural History, or from the small number and inefficiency of its officers, such cause of inferiority ought to be removed as speedily as possible, by a supply of funds adequate to furnish it, and to maintain an efficient corps of officers of acknowledged ability.

4. That it is more important to the educational interests of the Church to place in good working order the institutions already under its patronage than to found new ones.

5. That an unsanctified education is a curse rather than a blessing; and that the authorities controlling our schools and colleges should be careful to employ all means by which may be maintained the religious character of our institutions, which, for the most part, is so satisfactory, and for which we express our devout thanks to Almighty God, without whose special blessing nothing valuable can be accomplished.

Respectfully submitted. L. C. GARLAND, Chairman.

J. Boring, chairman of Committee on Orphans' Homes, presented the Report of that committee, which was read, and laid over under the rule. It is as follows:

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ORPHANS' HOMES.

The Special Committee appointed to consider the subject of homes for orphans, beg leave to report that they have investigated the subject as thoroughly as the circumstances would allow, and are fully persuaded of the truth and profound importance of the following propositions:

1. That the word of God declares it to be a perpetual arrangement of Divine providence, that *the poor* shall always abide among us.

2. That the highest obligations of duty to God, as well as to our fellow-men, require us to make provision for the welfare of the helpless

orphan and indigent widow; and the faithful discharge of this high trust is one of the sources of the richest consolation possible to human experience.

3. That the early Church was careful to discharge this duty, and for several centuries succeeding the apostolic age, the widow and the orphan were regarded as subjects of special interest, to be provided for, temporally and spiritually, as far as possible.

4. That there is special necessity for this benevolent work at this time.

We therefore recommend the adoption of the following Section, to be placed in the Book of Discipline, next after the Section on Missions:

SECTION ——. *Of Homes for Orphans.*

Question 1. What directions are given concerning orphans?

Answer 1. Let each Annual Conference, as soon as practicable, establish one or more orphans' homes within its bounds.

2. The indigent orphans of our Church and congregations, and others, when practicable, shall be received into such homes, under the direction of trustees hereinafter provided for, where they shall be cared for in all respects as in intelligent Christian families. They shall be as thoroughly educated as practicable, trained to business and habits of industry and useful pursuits, and, as far as possible, qualified to become useful members of society.

3. When an Annual Conference shall determine to found a home for orphans within its bounds, it shall appoint a Board of Trustees, consisting of six traveling preachers from its own members, and six laymen, who shall be members of our Church, and twenty-one years of age.

4. The trustees shall hold all the property, real and personal, of such house, in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, for the purpose before specified; shall manage, direct, and, when proper, sell, or otherwise dispose of, the same; shall appoint a superintendent, matrons, teachers, and such other officers and subordinates of the institution as may be necessary, and shall superintend the conduct and management of the same. They shall also determine the number of orphans to be received, and decide between applicants when there are more than can be admitted; and they shall also determine the time and mode of discharging such orphans.

5. The trustees shall not put out to service any orphan or other child who may have been admitted into said home, but they may make such business arrangements for said orphans, when they shall have attained

proper age, as may be deemed best for them, retaining the guardianship and oversight of the orphan pending such business arrangement.

6. Before proceeding to establish a home, the trustees shall, if practicable, procure from the proper authority of the State in which it is to be built, a charter, or act of incorporation, for such home.

7. The Board of Trustees shall adopt their own by-laws, and conduct the business of the trust as they shall judge best under the limitations and restrictions herein specified, and shall make a full Annual Report of the institution to the Conference in session.

8. The trustees shall be amenable to the Annual Conference, and shall nominate persons to fill vacancies in their Board, subject to confirmation or rejection by the Conference.

9. Whenever an Annual Conference shall make the request, it shall be the duty of the presiding Bishop to appoint an agent for the purpose of building or sustaining an orphans' home within the bounds of said Conference.

10. In case one Annual Conference may not be able to establish a home for orphans for itself, any two or more Conferences may unite for that purpose, upon such terms as may be agreed upon by themselves.

JESSE BORING, Chairman.

H. A. C. Walker and W. H. Fleming offered a resolution proposing changes of Discipline. Referred to Committee on Revisal. Another proposing changes of Ritual. Referred to Committee on Ritual.

J. E. Evans and S. Anthony offered a resolution on the trial of a Bishop. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

J. E. Evans and J. S. Key offered a resolution on the support of Bishops. Referred to Committee on Finance.

J. E. Evans presented a memorial from the Colored Georgia Conference of the M. E. Church, South, which was read, and ordered to be printed in the Daily Christian Advocate. It is as follows:

To the Bishops and Members of the General Conference in Conference assembled:

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—The undersigned, as representatives of the Georgia Annual Conference of the M. E. Church, South, for the colored people, take this method to express our high appreciation of the interest you have manifested in our race; and also our entire approval of the plan adopted by the General Conference of 1866, and perfected by this, to organize the colored members of the M. E. Church, South, into a separate Church, at an early day. The provision made to transfer the property held for our use to trustees that may be appointed by the Colored Church, when formed, is without a

parallel for its magnanimity and confidence; and we pledge that, so far as in us lies, the confidence and trusts reposed shall never be betrayed, but the property shall be held sacredly to the use intended.

While we thus express ourselves to the Bishops and Conference as a whole, allow us, as Georgians, especially to express our high sense of obligation to Bishop Pierce, for the interest he has manifested in our cause, and for the services rendered in organizing and holding our Conferences for us, which has enshrined him in the hearts of our people. And, in the same connection, we cannot forbear to mention the name of another Georgian, the Rev. J. E. Evans, who, as chairman of the committee of the General Conference of 1866, and also at the present Conference, has perfected the plan for organizing the Colored M. E. Church, South, and who, at home, as well as here, is our fast friend and counselor.

Finally, though we be separated into two bands, that our common Christianity and Methodism may thereby be promoted. May the prayer of the Saviour be fulfilled in us, that we may be one, even as he and his Father are one!

Respectfully yours in Christ Jesus,

R. H. VANDERHORST,

R. J. BROWN,

I. H. ANDERSON.

Memphis, Tenn., May 14, 1870.

Presiding Elders Georgia Conference.

M. S. Andrews and others offered a resolution on the Hymn-book and Discipline, which was read and referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals.

J. C. Keener offered a resolution on the German Apologist, which was read and referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals.

J. C. Keener and others offered a resolution on class-meetings, which was read and referred to Committee on Revisal.

H. H. Montgomery and R. Abbey offered a resolution on the trial of traveling ministers. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

A. R. Boone and A. B. Fly offered a resolution on change of Discipline. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

G. Jones and T. L. Boswell offered a resolution on the probation for orders. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

F. E. Pitts and others offered a resolution on a mission in Brazil. Referred to the Bishops and Board of Foreign Missions.

J. E. Evans presented a communication from the Rev. T. N. Stewart and other colored ministers, of the M. E. Church, South, expressing thanks to the Conference for the interest it has manifested in the welfare of the colored people, which was read.

D. R. McAnally presented a memorial from Kansas District Con-

ference on the support of the ministry. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

Also, a petition from the Missouri, St. Louis, and Illinois delegations, praying for the division of the Publishing House into two parts—one to be established at St. Louis, and the other at Baltimore—which was read and referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals, and ordered to be printed.

T. M. Finney and W. M. Rush offered a resolution on the support of the Bishops. Referred to Committee on Finance.

G. A. Dannelly and James Mackey offered a resolution on the order of business in Quarterly Conferences. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

G. A. Dannelly and C. F. Harvey offered three resolutions proposing changes of Discipline. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

O. A. Fisher and others offered a resolution on the circulation of the Bible among Mexicans between the San Antonio and Rio Grande, etc., which was read and referred to Board of Foreign Missions.

W. Headen and others presented a memorial respecting the Methodist Academy at Corpus Christi, Texas, which was read and referred to Board of Foreign Missions.

O. A. Fisher and W. Headen offered a resolution on Sunday-school Text-books, which was read and referred to Committee on Sunday-schools.

O. Fisher and E. K. Miller offered a resolution asking that the Columbia Conference be placed on the list of Domestic Missions, which was read and referred to Committee on Missions.

S. R. Jones and others, of the Illinois delegation, offered a resolution asking that said Conference have the right to divide within the next four years, which was read and referred to Committee on Boundaries.

L. M. Lee and W. W. Bennett offered a preamble and resolutions on unsettled claims of the Richmond Depository, which were read and referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals.

A. W. Wilson submitted the Report of the Board of Foreign Missions, which was read, and, on motion of E. H. Myers, was referred to Committee on Missions, with instructions not to print it.

D. R. McAnally submitted a communication from Mr. L. D. Dameron, President of the South-western Book and Publishing Company, at St. Louis, which was read, referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals, and ordered to be published in the Daily Christian Advocate.

On motion of D. R. McAnally, Mr. Dameron was granted the

privilege of appearing before the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

J. Hamilton submitted a communication from Dr. A. T. Bledsoe, respecting the publication of a Quarterly Review, which was referred to a special committee of seven, constituted as follows: S. S. Roszell, A. L. P. Green, J. Hamilton, A. H. Redford, L. C. Garland, G. N. Lester, W. H. Watkins.

J. E. Edwards offered a resolution on the decisions of Bishops, which was read and referred to Committee on Episcopacy.

W. T. Crouch, lay delegate from Little Rock Conference; L. C. Garland, lay delegate from Memphis Conference; A. R. Boone, lay delegate from Memphis Conference; R. A. Hatcher, lay delegate from St. Louis Conference; J. H. Birch, lay delegate from Missouri Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence.

C. I. Vandeventer and J. H. Birch offered a resolution on Church-meetings, which was read and referred to Committee on Revisal.

T. Whitehead offered a resolution on changing the basis of representation. Referred to Committee on Revisal.

The special committee of nine submitted their report on the papers relating to the proposals of union made by the Commission of the M. E. Church, which was read and adopted unanimously with a rising vote, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PROPOSALS OF UNION.

The committee to whom were referred the papers relating to the proposals of union made by the Commission from the Methodist Episcopal Church, having carefully considered the subject, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That gratefully recognizing that Providence which has hitherto guided us, multiplied us, strengthened our hands, and preserved our integrity as a Church of Jesus Christ under the trying conditions both of war and peace, we earnestly desire to cultivate true Christian fellowship with every other branch of the Christian Church, and especially with our brethren of the several branches of Methodism in this country and in Europe.

2. That the action of our Bishops in their last annual meeting in St. Louis, in response to the message from the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, has the full indorsement of this General Conference, and accurately defines our position in reference to any overtures which may proceed from that Church, having in them an official and proper recognition of this body.

3. That the distinguished Commission now present, of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church met at Chicago in May, 1868, appointed by it for the specific purpose expressed in the following resolution, viz., "*Resolved*, That the Commission ordered by the General Conference to confer with a like Commission from the African M. E. Zion Church to arrange for the union of that body with our own, be also empowered to treat with similar Commissions from any other Methodist Church that may desire a like union," cannot, in our judgment, without great violence in construing the language of said resolution, be regarded as having been constituted by that General Conference a Commission to make proposals of union to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

4. *Resolved, moreover*, That if this distinguished Commission were fully clothed with authority to treat with us for union, it is the judgment of this Conference that the true interests of the Church of Christ require and demand the maintenance of our separate and distinct organization.

5. That we tender to the Rev. Bishop E. S. Janes, and the Rev. W. L. Harris, D.D., the members of the Commission now with us, our high regards as brethren beloved in the Lord, and express our desire that the day may soon come when proper Christian sentiments and fraternal relations between the two great branches of Northern and Southern Methodism shall be permanently established.

A. L. P. GREEN,
J. C. KEENER,
A. W. WILSON,
L. C. GARLAND,
JAMES JACKSON,
GEO. W. WILLIAMS,
E. K. MILLER,
TRUSTEN POLK,
R. ALEXANDER.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, Conference adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Monday Morning, May 16, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Wightman in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by Whiteford Smith.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop Marvin took the chair.

W. F. Holder, lay delegate from the Tennessee Conference; W. L. J.

Wilks, Reserve lay delegate in place of G. G. Dibrell, from the Tennessee Conference; Charles F. Harvey, Reserve lay delegate from the Louisville Conference, in place of J. C. Walker, appeared and took their seats.

L. Pierce addressed the Conference in regard to the request made of him to preach before the Conference, and obtained leave to preach on some night during the session.

J. E. Edwards, chairman of Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 3, which was read and laid on the table under the rule. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 3.

The committee have considered the memorial from the Louisiana Conference, petitioning the General Conference "to expunge from the Discipline" all that relates to the preacher or preachers who may be stationed in the city of New Orleans, as forming an exception to the limit of four years, during which a preacher may be returned to the same appointment, and recommend *concurrence* on the part of the General Conference.

The paper, also, from Meridian District, Mobile Conference, asking that the licensing of local preachers be transferred from the Quarterly to the District Conferences, has been considered, and the committee report that the action already had by the General Conference, touching the same subject, renders any expression of the sense of the committee unnecessary.

JNO. E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

S. Bobo, chairman of Committee on Sunday-schools, submitted Report No. 5 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 5.

The Committee on Sunday-schools have considered the resolution of O. A. Fisher and W. Headen, concerning Sunday-school Text-books, and beg leave to report that the subject has been already provided for, and they ask to be discharged from its farther consideration.

SIMPSON BOBO, Chairman.

L. C. Garland, chairman of Committee on Education, submitted Report No. 2 of the Majority, and B. Craven, of the same committee, submitted a Minority Report.

Both Reports were read, and, on motion of J. Hamilton, were laid on the table.

A motion of indefinite postponement, made by W. M. Byrd, was lost, the vote being 107 ayes and 108 noes. The Reports are as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, NO. 2.

It was by resolution given in charge to the Committee on Education to report specially upon the subject of Ministerial Education; which duty they proceed to discharge in the words following, to wit:

In regard to the relation between learning and the promulgation of the gospel, there is not, among Methodists, much diversity of opinion.

We hold that a man cannot be made a true minister of Christ by any human agency. He must be called to this sacred office by the Head of the Church, who retains the prerogative of calling into his service whom he will; and that whatever be the aids to which a minister may legitimately resort to increase his usefulness, they are nothing worth without the presence and assistance of the Holy Ghost. Spiritual things must be spiritually discerned, and a minister cannot rightly comprehend and develop to others the true nature of the gospel without having experienced its regenerating power in his own soul. A course of training, which is to serve as a substitute for the calling and preparation of the Holy Ghost, we do, therefore, repudiate.

A learning which is to detract from directness and simplicity in the gospel message, which is to mix up the vain speculations of men with the clear revelations of the Scripture, which is to render sermonizing abstract and philosophical, or which is to address itself to the mere fancy and the literary taste of men, we denounce.

A learning which, so to speak, is to scaffold over the cross of Christ and shut it out from the gaze of men, and upon it to erect a platform from which the minister may exhibit his parts before admiring crowds, is odious, and disgusting, and profane.

But a learning which, in its acquisition, has developed and trained the powers of the mind; which has laid the foundation for a constant progression in the mind's capacity to grasp truth, so that the mind is secured against a superannuation antecedent to that of the body; which, in its application, seeks to find out more profoundly and accurately the true meaning of the Scriptures, and to present its truths with greater simplicity and force; which adapts itself to the capacity of its hearers, and which, while it disdains to cater to the tastes of men, will never offend the rules of propriety; which will give its possessor weight of character, not only in the pulpit, but in the social circle, as a man of extensive information and sound judgment, is a learning which we highly value, and which we rank as a qualification for the ministry second only to the unction of the Holy Ghost.

Such an education the Church has always estimated at the highest rate, and endeavored to secure for its ministers.

It has never thought itself at liberty to make such an education a *sine qua non* to reception into the ministry, and we trust it never will. A man who has learned but little from books may, in the experience of his heart and life, have become profoundly acquainted with all the essential doctrines of Christianity; and the simple story of the cross, uttered through unpolished lips, yet coming from a full and glowing heart, and in dependence upon the Spirit of divine grace, will find its way to the consciences of men, and under its power sinners will be convicted and converted, and through the instrumentality of such a one there will be added to the Church such as will be saved. Such were many of the most useful members of our Church a century ago. And yet no one can doubt that the usefulness of these men would have been enlarged by proper intellectual culture. As in our first Report, was stated in another connection, our population at that period was, for the most part, unlettered. The literary attainments of these ministers, though small, were in advance of those of the people to whom they preached. There were but few cultivated tastes to offend by false grammar, or rhetoric, or elocution. But even at that time, these holy and successful ministers of God lamented their lack of knowledge, and they endeavored to repair their deficiencies as, under the circumstances, they best could. The young ministers were required to travel under their seniors; that they might be directed in their studies and incited to diligence.

In the progress of the Church, it lifted up its membership to a higher social position, and took hold upon the most refined classes of society, so that there was created a demand for ministers not less simple-hearted and earnest, and devotedly pious, but more cultivated and refined, that they might not drop below the level of the laity in this respect, and become shorn, in part, of the power they had exerted over them. The Church recognized this demand, and proceeded to supply it by adopting enlarged courses of study to be prosecuted by the candidates for the several orders in the ministry. But it was found necessary to exact from candidates some previous scholastic training, in order to the successful study of these prescribed courses, and to the Quarterly Conferences was intrusted the examination of candidates upon the elementary studies of an English education. That much good was effected by these measures cannot be denied. Enough was accomplished to show the efficiency of the system if it were judiciously applied. It failed chiefly in that part intrusted to the Quarterly Conference, which did not exact

from the candidate the amount of mental development requisite for the successful prosecution of his future studies, in the midst of the burdens and responsibilities of a minister assigned to full work.

The Church then adopted the policy of erecting colleges for the general liberal education of its youth, indulging the hope that from among those thus cultivated, it would please the Holy Ghost to call many into the ministry. In this hope the Church has not been wholly disappointed. Look over the Conferences, and you will find many graduates of our colleges in the ranks of the ministry, and they are generally our most prominent and useful men. They, by virtue of their previous culture, could, when they were received on trial, do the full work of preachers, and at the same time master the prescribed courses of study. They are the exponents of the utmost usefulness of the plan adopted by the Church when it is rightly applied, and they prove the plan to be a good one. But no doubt out of the ranks of our educated youth God has called to the ministerial work many more than have responded to the call. The careers opened up before our educated young men, by the professions, are so brilliant and inviting, and harmonize so perfectly with the carnal aspirations of our nature, that it requires an unusual measure of grace in our educated youth to withstand the temptation, and to induce them to forsake all for the self-denying, and laborious, and ill-paid work of the ministry. The divine call is probably resisted by a majority of those to whom it is made; and it is as true in this age of the Church as in any former one, that the majority of God's ministers are taken from among the middle walks of life and from youth of moderate literary attainments. The necessity is, therefore, as strongly laid upon the Church as it ever was to educate its ministers. Indeed, it is more so, when we consider the fact that our numerous schools and colleges are daily elevating the intellectual character of our people, and the cry from every part of the work is, Give us a more highly educated ministry. We cannot defer longer to meet this demand without disappointment to the people and detriment to our cause. Never, at any former period, had the Methodist Church so strong a hold upon public sympathy; never were its opportunities for usefulness so great as at the present time; and if we had a ministry equal in all respects to the occasion, we might go up in the name of the Lord to the possession of the land.

The Church, moreover, stands already fully committed to this work. The principle upon which the education of the Christian ministry reposes has long since been accepted by the Methodist Church, and the duty it imposes acknowledged in what the Church has already done. There

is no diversity of opinion among us upon this point. The only question is, how we may educate our ministers most effectually.

Without disturbing the plan already adopted by the Church, which we have stated to be a good one, and which we would not wish to see disturbed, excepting to give it greater efficiency by exacting a better preparation from candidates for the ministry, and by making the annual examinations more rigid, we think the Church ought to establish a Theological Institute under the control of the College of Bishops, and officered by our wisest and holiest men, where those called of God to preach may receive without detriment to their piety and zeal a better preparation for the work of the ministry. We would not have attendance upon the training of this Institute coerced by making it indispensable to admission on trial; nor would we compel a student attending it to remain any definite period of time. Let it be an opportunity of improvement over and above those now furnished by the Church, of which our young men called to preach may avail themselves or not, as they please, and to such extent as they please. But that it may be accessible and useful to all classes of candidates, we would have two courses of study prescribed in it: the one for the mere English scholar; to enter upon which the requirements should be the same with those for admission into a Conference upon trial. This course should not be less extensive than the entire four years' course now prescribed by the Discipline, and being prosecuted under the most favorable circumstances, it may be so arranged as to be thoroughly completed in two years. If a student remains and finishes this course, so much the better. If he leaves at the end of one year, or even of six months, to enter a Conference on trial, let him do so. He will, from a stay however brief, have secured to himself advantages worth much more to him than the time and money he may have expended, and which he could not have procured in equal degree elsewhere or by any other means.

The other course should meet the wants of the classical scholar, who desires to study the Scriptures in their original languages, and to make himself familiar with the whole circle of Biblical literature. Admission to this course would demand higher attainments—attainments about such as the graduates of our colleges acquire. Here, again, we would impose no length of residence at the Institute upon any one prosecuting this course. He may cut it short when he pleases, and offer himself to a Conference for admission on trial. And we think a course sufficiently extensive may be arranged so as to be completed in three years.

Students completing either of these, we would receive into the ministry just as they are now, and precisely upon the same terms. From the moment of application for admission on trial, up to the hour of consecration to the highest order in the Church, no distinctions should be made between these and the candidates who present themselves with the certificates of the Quarterly Conferences only.

To enter into the details of the organization of such an Institute, is not the object of this Report. Suffice it to say, they are not difficult. The two courses may be made to harmonize, so that the work of both may be done in the time prescribed, by the labor of three men, lecturing twice a day.

To the establishment of such a Theological Institute the sentiment of the Church was committed by the College of Bishops, at the last General Conference. In their Address, they say: "In this connection, we specially bring to your attention the importance of an Institute for the proper training of young preachers. That we should make some proper arrangements for the more thorough training of our young men before they are received into the Conference and sent forth to minister in the Church of Christ, appears to us to be so obvious as to need no argument to prove it." Now, what was the response of the Conference to this recommendation of the Bishops?

"That it is at this time most expedient that Biblical Schools be established in connection with the colleges which are under the control of the Annual Conferences." The very phraseology shows that this measure was designed as a temporary arrangement, until the times should become more favorable for the establishment of an Institute. We had just emerged from the war, and the time was propitious for nothing more than the attachment of a Biblical Chair to a college. But this action was an acknowledgment of the importance of theological schools, and a waiver of all objection against them. It was an acceptance by the Church of the policy of affording our young ministers the opportunity, in a theological school, of being better prepared for their work; and the measure adopted as temporary, has been useful. Not a college belonging to the Church ought at any time to have been without a Chair of Biblical Literature; and no young man should at any time have left its walls without having been taught, in connection with the study of the Bible, the doctrines and usages of the Methodist Church. We should be glad if arrangements were made whereby every student should attend upon the instructions of the Biblical Chair. As a mere literary production, the Bible cannot be ignored by any one pretending to a liberal education. And that Homer, or Virgil, should

be daily studied and commented upon, and not the Bible, is perhaps a reflection upon an institution under the immediate patronage of the Church. Let the Biblical Departments already established in our colleges be fostered and supported, and let the establishment of others in the institutions now destitute of them be encouraged. But we respectfully submit, that these Chairs do not and cannot meet the demands of the Church for an educated ministry.

A respectable theological course of three years' study, requires the undivided labor of three or four instructors. Now, we have not a college that is not complaining of the want of funds to enlarge its literary advantages, so as to bring it up in all of its departments of learning to a level with those institutions with which it has to compete. Each has found it difficult to establish a single Chair of Biblical Literature; and for the most part, the labor of but one man has been exclusively applied to Biblical instruction. What he could not do in the limited course of study adopted, has been divided out as best could be done among the professors of the literary departments.

Is this the theological instruction the Church demands? But it may be asked, Why not raise money to increase the number of Theological Chairs, and to convert the Biblical Department of each college into a *bona fide* theological institute? The answer is, that this would impose upon the Church the enormous expense of endowing a half dozen or more institutes, when one is all that is required. Then why not take hold of the Biblical Department of some one of these colleges, and erect it into a *bona fide* theological institution, by the endowment of three or four Theological Chairs, and the purchase of many thousand theological books for its library? 1. Because it would be difficult to choose between their rival claims. 2. Because those institutions are under the control of corporate bodies, which, by law, have the exclusive management of them, and who would intervene between this General Conference and the Institute of its own creation. 3. Because jealousies and rivalries would exist between the Biblical Chairs of the colleges and a theological institution attached to any one of them. The students of Emory would not dishonor their *Alma Mater* Biblical Chair by going to Wofford for theology, and *vice versa*. Those of neither would resort for a like purpose to Trinity or Randolph Macon, and we should never concentrate our youth upon the theological department of any one of them, so as to make it a great institution of the Church.

We are therefore in favor of establishing a theological institution separate and apart from our colleges, against which the prejudices of the graduates of our colleges could not lodge in an equal degree. If

this should break up the Biblical Chairs of the colleges by attraction to the Institute, inasmuch as it would be to transfer our youth to an institution affording greatly enlarged facilities, the Church gains by it. But there can be no such effect, if the colleges will do what we think is proper to be done, namely, to make every student attend upon the lectures of their Biblical professor, in part or in whole. This would insure the Biblical Chair full work at all times—work, too, of the highest interest to the Church. Far be it from this committee to underrate these Biblical Chairs, or to injure them in the least degree.

This is a matter about which we regret that there was not unanimity in the committee. Up to this point we were a unit. All admitted the necessity of elevating the standard of ministerial education—all admitted the propriety of doing this by schooling; but while the majority considered it best to establish a school exclusively under the control of the General Conference, and upon a scale worthy of the Church, the minority prefer to adhere to the several schools attached to the colleges, and on this point propose to present a separate report. We will not do the minority the discourtesy of arguing beforehand the inconsistency involved in the propositions, that a theological school in connection with a college tends to good, but one by itself tends only to evil; and that if there are great benefits resulting from a partially organized and imperfect Biblical Department of a college, there will be mischief only from an extensive and thoroughly organized Theological Institute.

We regret exceedingly that the committee could not see eye to eye on this single point, as they did upon all others. We should have rejoiced if the Conference could have moved forward with the prestige of unanimity in this great work of ministerial education, which the Church is obliged to take hold of, and direct for its own advancement.

The truth is, a show of learning to the detriment of our ministry is intruding itself among us. Learning is an element in ministerial qualification so demanded by public taste, that there is scarcely a minister who does not affect it more or less, whether he really possesses it or not. Our young men without guides, without the facilities for the acquisition of true learning, are catching at a spurious article, which is of no service subjectively, as a means of mental improvement, or objectively, in elucidating and enforcing the simple truths of the gospel. It is hurtful under any view you can take of it, and we had a thousand times rather have a simple and totally unlettered ministry than one imbued with the superficial and patched-up learning of the day. The exhibitions of the pulpit are becoming tenfold more painful by affected learn-

ing then by undisguised ignorance. Neither is desirable, but the latter is vastly more endurable. Now, we must get this vanity and foolishness out of our young ministers. They must know and feel that the preaching of the simple story of the cross, and that in its utmost simplicity and directness of appeal to the consciences and hearts of men, and in sole dependence upon, and coöperation with, the Holy Ghost, is the only preaching that will prove effectual to the salvation of souls.

We know of no way of ridding ourselves of false learning but by substituting for it the true. And how this substitution is to be effected except by the proper training of the young ministers of the Church, and how they are to be properly trained, unless placed as pupils under the tuition of the most wise and holy men of the Church, is past our comprehension.

Be it therefore, by this General Conference,

Resolved, 1. That our Bishops be requested and authorized to locate and plan a Biblical Institute for the proper training of young preachers, and to solicit, in the manner which to them may seem most effectual, contributions from all parts of the Church for the establishment and endowment of the same.

2. That to secure the identity of this institution with the Church, and its operations in complete sympathy and harmony with its organization and policy, the Bishops of the Church shall be its trustees and directors. They shall prescribe its course of studies, appoint its officers, assign to them their respective duties, and see that they are rightly and faithfully discharged, a majority of whom shall have full authority to act.

3. Graduation at the Institute shall not be made imperative to admission into a Conference upon trial.

4. The graduates of the Institute shall acquire no specific rights over the candidates for admission having only the certificates of Quarterly Conferences. They enter the Conferences by the same mode and upon the same terms.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

L. C. GARLAND, Chairman.

MINORITY REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The undersigned members of the Committee on Education, being a minority of the same, and differing from the majority on the propriety of inaugurating measures to establish a theological seminary, beg leave to offer the following Report:

We are of the opinion that it is inexpedient at this time to take any steps indicating a fixed intention on the part of the General Conference to establish an institution exclusively for the training of young preachers. The opinion of the whole Church is very far from being unanimously in favor of such a measure. It is even doubted by many, whether such an institution accords either with the interests of Methodism, or the teachings and spirit of the gospel; hence, to act now, with this divided opinion, and no certainty of success, would certainly be a hazardous experiment. Any resolution or form of words indorsing a theological seminary, neither followed nor intended to be followed by immediate and successful efforts to obtain it, will be unwise and injurious. If the resolution is simply intended to quiet those who are supposed to demand it; or if it is prepared as a protection for those who are restless under our supposed ministerial inferiority when compared with others; or if it is meant as a silken cord to hold those children of Methodism who are said to be straying away in search of a higher culture: upon either or all the suppositions, as a reason for the passage of the resolution, there would be a seeming want of candor incompatible with the word of God, and something which may be construed into practical subterfuge unworthy any assembly of great and good men.

If, however, the resolution is intended to be followed by immediate and vigorous action, then, in our opinion, it is injudicious, undesirable, and certain of failure. Whether located at some existing institution, or at a place yet to be selected and improved, a large sum of money will be necessary. Such a seminary can have very little, if any, income from tuition, and hence all expenses of founding and maintenance must be provided for by a vested endowment, and a provision for all appliances and faculty will require a larger sum than has been raised for all our schools and colleges since the war. This difficulty is greatly increased by the fact that every Conference already has a load almost too heavy to be borne. It will require a persistent and tremendous effort to prevent the colleges we already have from being crushed by death, or dying of starvation. We shall need the famed energy of Methodism, aided by enlarged Christian liberality, to save the investments and vantage-ground of our literary institutions, and place them upon a basis of collegiate respectability and financial security. We have not a dollar to spare, and no time to lose. We are in far more danger of losing position in the world of letters, caste in society, and human efficiency in preaching the word of God, from want of first-class colleges, than from any present lack of theological seminaries. We assert, in reply to the suggestion that some persons are thought to be

holding large sums in reserve for the purpose of endowing a theological seminary, experience answers with a groan, that reserved donations are dangerously slow of movement, and generally bring with them, if they ever come, troublesome conditions and destructive litigation. With an impoverished people, Bishops and preachers badly supported, our sons and daughters to educate, churches to repair and build, and more than thirty colleges, male and female, to sustain, any attempt to establish a theological seminary would result in inevitable, disgraceful failure.

Nor are we entirely without theological tuition and training. The Biblical Chairs in connection with our colleges have accomplished more than their friends at the last Conference anticipated. More than one hundred young men, many of them preachers, are now receiving Biblical instruction in our colleges, not only with a view to the ministry, but directly upon those books and studies that would be prescribed in a theological seminary. These young men are exerting an immense influence upon the religious character of the colleges, and will soon come forth prepared to battle for truth upon any field, and rich in the rudiments of a pastoral experience that the students of a seminary exclusively theological would never have any opportunity to acquire. Let the importunate advocates of the theological seminary wait till the Biblical Schools have placed their first fruits in the hands of the Bishops; then, if these trained men shall generally fail in the elements of a successful gospel-preacher, a proposition for something else will be appropriate.

Finally, we doubt whether any thing in the history and present condition of the Church, or in the world of evil around us, has as yet demonstrated the present necessity or propriety of a theological seminary, even if one could be established. The history of such institutions has little that is favorable to Methodism, and much that is adverse. They have been the fruitful source of heresies innumerable, of a manner of preaching not generally desirable and rarely effectual among us, and of much of that formalism that never favors experimental religion. Methodism in earnest is the best form of religion, and the best religion, we think. It desires and uses all light and learning, but can only make them effective when they blaze and burn with the Holy Ghost. We believe in the highest possible culture, but would deprecate any thing that in the least tends to diminish that zeal and spirituality that have done so much toward making the kingdoms of this world the kingdom of our Lord and his Christ.

Without attempting to anticipate what the future may demand, we offer the following resolution for the adoption of the Conference:

Resolved, That we indorse the action of the last General Conference in reference to Biblical Chairs in connection with our existing colleges, as the best available means for training young preachers.

Respectfully submitted.

B. CRAVEN,
A. H. COLQUITT,
E. W. SEHON,
CHARLES TAYLOR,
J. R. JOHN,
E. K. MILLER,
L. M. SMITH,
R. SMITHSON,
J. R. ROGERS,
H. G. HALL.

On motion of J. E. Evans, it was ordered that when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet this afternoon at 3 o'clock, for the discussion of this subject.

The Minority Report, as a substitute for the Majority Report No. 1 of Committee on Itinerancy, as laid over on Friday last, was taken up, and L. C. Garland was allowed to discuss it without regard to limitation of time. After discussing it at some length, in favor of the substitute, he was followed by J. Hamilton in opposition. On motion of L. M. Lee, he was allowed to speak without regard to limitation of time—a motion of P. A. Peterson to suspend the fifteen-minute rule during the remainder of the session, being lost.

J. Hamilton was followed by L. M. Lee and R. H. Powell in favor of the substitute, and J. B. McFerrin against it. J. B. Cottrell made a personal explanation.

On motion of W. M. Byrd, the subject was indefinitely postponed.

A. W. Wilson presented a memorial of Reuben Wright on certain unsettled claims on the Missionary Society, which was read and referred to a special committee of five, as follows: A. W. Wilson, J. S. Lithgow, D. K. Pittman, H. H. Montgomery, and W. B. Wood.

A motion of W. M. Leftwich, to refer all other claims on the Missionary Society to the same committee, did not prevail.

Bishop Pierce submitted the Report of the Commissioners appointed by the last General Conference to meet a Commission of the Methodist Protestant Church to consider the subject of union, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED BY THE LAST GENERAL CONFERENCE TO CONFER WITH THE CONVENTION OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH, IN MAY, 1867.

Your Commissioners waited on the Convention which met in Montgomery, Alabama, in May, 1867, and on presenting their credentials, were promptly and courteously received. The negotiations were conducted with fraternal cordiality and frankness on both sides. They, with the result, have been published at length in the official papers of the Church, and so generally read and circulated, that we do not consider it necessary to present them in detail.

Though the Commissioners did not succeed in effecting an organic union between the two Churches, yet they report, with satisfaction, that, in official deliberation and conversation, the difficulties in the way of organic union seemed to be less than many supposed; and a very respectable number of the Convention agreed with your Commissioners as to the basis on which an organic union might be effected. The harmony of feeling was delightful to us. We felt that we were among brethren, and our desire to be one with them, in organization as well as in faith, was increased by our personal and ministerial intercourse.

Your Commissioners would conclude this Report with a recommendation that you adopt the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the fraternal greetings of the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South, are hereby extended to the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church now assembled in Baltimore.

2. That the Rev. J. H. Linn, D.D., the Rev. S. Kepler, and the Rev. L. D. Huston, D.D., be requested to wait on the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, now in session at Baltimore, and present the fraternal greetings of the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South.

G. F. PIERCE,
H. N. MCTYEIRE,
J. E. EVANS,
LEROY M. LEE.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, Conference adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Monday Afternoon, May 16, 1870.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Marvin in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by H. Jewell.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Kavanaugh took the chair.

The order of the day was suspended to allow of the transfer of the memorial of W. Headen, Agent of the Corpus Christi Male and Female Academy, from the Board of Foreign Missions, to which it had been referred, to the Committee on Education.

A motion of A. M. Shipp, to postpone the order of the day to Friday next at 10 o'clock, was lost.

The order of the day was then taken up, and W. M. Byrd moved the adoption of the Report of the Minority as a substitute for Report No. 2 of the Majority of the Committee on Education.

The question was then discussed by Thos. Reed, F. E. Pitts, Charles Taylor, L. M. Smith—he being allowed to speak without regard to the fifteen-minutes' rule—O. Fisher, and A. H. Colquitt, in favor of the Report of the Minority, and by J. B. Cottrell, E. H. Myers, W. H. Watkins, J. Hamilton, and A. L. P. Green, against it.

The Rev. Allen Wright, of the Presbyterian Church, Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation, on his way to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, at Louisville, was introduced to the Conference.

C. K. Marshall arose to speak on the question before the Conference—was recognized as having the floor—when Conference adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Tuesday Morning, May 17, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Kavanaugh in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by N. A. Cravens.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Doggett took the chair.

M. C. Baldridge, lay Reserve delegate from the Tennessee Conference, in place of John F. House, and J. J. Dement, lay Reserve delegate from the Tennessee Conference, in place of Watson M. Cooke, appeared and took their seats.

W. M. Rush, chairman of Committee on Books and Periodicals, submitted Report No. 13 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 13.

Your committee, to whom were referred the memorial of the St. Louis, the Missouri, and the Illinois Conference delegations, relating to the removal of the Publishing House from Nashville to Baltimore and St. Louis, and also a communication from Logan D. Dameron, President

of the South-western Book and Publishing Company, upon the same matter, beg leave to report the same back to the General Conference, and recommend that they be considered in connection with the general question:

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

W. P. Harrison, chairman of Special Committee on the Revision of the Ritual, submitted Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF THE RITUAL, NO. 1.

The Special Committee appointed to consider propositions to revise the Ritual, beg leave to make Report No. 1:

A paper was referred to us making certain inquiries concerning the faith and practice of the Church in regard to rebaptism. This paper, signed by Wm. S. Baird and A. W. Wilson, requests us to determine whether it is proper for the General Conference to decide the lawfulness of rebaptizing persons in adult age who have been baptized in infancy, and the case of those adults who, having been baptized by one mode, desire to be baptized by another.

Your committee, after due consideration, deem it unnecessary for this Conference to pronounce an opinion upon these subjects.

W. P. HARRISON, Chairman.

Milton Brown, chairman of Committee on Finance, submitted Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read; also, a Minority Report of the same committee, both of which were read, laid on the table under the rule, and ordered to be printed in the Daily Christian Advocate. They are as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the various memorials, resolutions, and plans on the subject of the support of the ministers, Presiding Elders, and Bishops, beg leave to report and recommend the adoption of the following, viz.: Strike out Sections 1, 2, and 3, from Chap. IX., pages 30 and 31, of the "Report of the Special Committee on the Reërrangement of the Discipline," and insert the following, viz.:

SUPPORT OF THE MINISTRY.

I. Support of Preachers on Circuits and Stations.

I. Every minister who, by the rules and usages of the Church, has a

claim on its funds, shall, as far as practicable, have his claim estimated by those who are to pay it, or by an agent authorized to act for them.

II. The stewards of each circuit and station shall meet as early as practicable in the Conference-year. The time and place of this meeting shall be fixed by the fourth Quarterly Conference of the preceding year, or, in default thereof, by the preacher in charge. They shall elect their own chairman, secretary, and treasurer; provided, that the offices of secretary and treasurer may be filled by the same person. It shall be the duty of the Board thus organized—

1. To estimate the salary and traveling expenses of the preacher in charge, having due regard to what, in their godly judgment, may be deemed necessary to place him and his family (if a man of family) in such circumstances of comfort and protection as will enable him to serve the Church to the full extent of the requirements of the Discipline.

2. To apportion this amount, with the amount necessary to meet the claim of the Presiding Elder, among the several societies of the pastoral charge, according to their judgment of the equitable proportion of each.

3. To report their action to the first Quarterly Conference of the charge, which shall approve, amend, or recommit.

4. As soon as practicable, each steward shall inform his society of the whole amount to be raised on the circuit, or station, and what part of it each society is expected to raise. The societies shall adopt their own method of raising this money.

5. The stewards shall coöperate with their respective societies, by giving their personal attention, as early as practicable, to the execution of their plans, by making quarterly and, when practicable, monthly or weekly collections in each society; by instructing the membership in the scriptural duty of giving as the Lord hath prospered them; and by such other means as may be deemed wise and necessary.

II. *Support of Presiding Elders.*

- I. The salary and traveling expenses of the Presiding Elder shall be estimated by the District Stewards.

- II. The District Stewards shall apportion this amount among the pastoral charges of the District, assigning to each an equitable proportion of the whole amount.

- III. The Boards of Stewards of the several charges shall add the sum thus assigned them to the amount estimated for the salary and traveling expenses of the preacher in charge, which shall be collected as a joint fund; and in case of a deficiency, it shall be divided among

the persons having claims thereon, *pro rata*, first deducting the amount allowed for traveling expenses.

IV. They shall report their action to the District Conference, which shall approve, amend, or recommit.

III. *Support of the Bishops.*

I. The allowance of the Bishops for salary and traveling expenses shall be estimated by the Committee on Episcopacy of the General Conference, and they shall apportion the amount to the several Annual Conferences, according to their judgment of the equitable proportion of each Conference.

II. The Annual Conferences shall adopt their own plans for raising this money, which shall be called the Bishops' Fund; provided, it shall be the especial duty of the Presiding Elders to see that the plans of their respective Conferences be faithfully executed.

III. This fund shall be paid over to the Joint Board of Finance of the Annual Conference, and the Treasurer of the Board, under the direction of the Chairman, shall pay over to the presiding Bishop one-half the amount, taking his receipt for the same; and shall remit the other half to the General Book Agent, by draft, or otherwise, together with the receipt of the Bishop, taking the receipt of the General Book Agent for the whole.

IV. It shall be the duty of the General Book Agent to divide the money thus received among the Bishops, *pro rata*, and remit to them by draft, or otherwise, at least quarterly.

V. The General Book Agent shall report to the General Conference, setting forth: (1) The whole amount estimated for the salary and traveling expenses of the Bishops, and how it has been apportioned among the Annual Conferences. (2) What has been received on the several apportionments, and how it has been distributed. (3) The deficiency, if any; its causes and remedy.

Respectfully submitted.

MILTON BROWN, Chairman.

MINORITY REPORT.

I make the foregoing Report, as chairman, in compliance with the order of a majority of the Committee on Finance, but do not concur in recommending its adoption, believing that the plan proposed to be stricken out is subject to fewer objections, and is preferable to the one proposed to be put in its place.

MILTON BROWN.

C. F. Harvey, chairman of Committee on Church-music, submitted the Report of said committee, which was read, laid on the table for the present, and ordered to be printed. It is as follows:

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON COLLECTION OF CHURCH-MUSIC.

The Special Committee to whom was referred the resolution to inquire into the practicability of obtaining a collection of Church-music suited to the various meters contained in our Hymn-book, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report that, after full investigation of the subject, they believe that such a collection of sacred music, as is contemplated by the resolution, is not only desirable, but necessary to the general use of those of our hymns written in particular, or unusual meters. There is no collection of sacred music, within our knowledge, having merit enough to entitle it to patronage, that contains tunes for all the meters in our Hymn-book. As our sacred poetry, written in the same measures, expresses the emotions of joy, sorrow, and penitence, so should our music be so adapted to the words as to express fully these various emotions of the soul.

We also believe that a collection of tunes suited to revival occasions is very desirable. The knowledge of some of these gems of sacred song is confined to certain localities, while others are scattered in works now nearly out of use and print, and can only be obtained at considerable trouble and expense. A collection in this department alone will supply a want felt by many of our societies, and it will give all access to the choicest songs of Zion used in our entire Connection. It is believed by your committee that a collection can be made that will not only meet the wants of our own Church, but, by its intrinsic merits, commend itself to the patronage of other denominations. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That a committee of five, residing in different parts of our Connection, be appointed to collect suitable tunes for the work contemplated.

2. That the committee shall have power to appoint one of their own number, or some other suitable person, to receive and arrange the matter so furnished for publication, and shall also have power to arrange all details for the successful prosecution of the work.

3. That no original composition or arrangement shall be admitted into the work until a manuscript copy shall have been furnished each member of the committee, and his approval obtained thereto.

4. That each member of the committee shall furnish every other member with a list of pieces furnished by him for publication, and in what works found, who shall, as soon as practicable, express his approval of or dissent to each piece; and it shall require a majority of the committee to any piece admitted.

5. Whenever a collection satisfactory to the committee shall have

been made, the General Book Agent is hereby instructed to publish the same, as soon as practicable. CHAS. F. HARVEY, Chairman.

A. M. Shipp presented an appeal from John Veal and others, of Columbia, South Carolina, on behalf of their church, that was burned during the war, which was read, and, on motion of E. W. Schon, it was

Resolved, That the Conference has heard with deep emotion of the sad fortunes of our brethren in Columbia, S. C., and earnestly commend the Rev. Wm. Martin, who is soliciting aid for the rebuilding of their church, to the kind and liberal consideration of the members and friends of our Communion.

J. Hamilton, chairman of Committee on Revisal, submitted Report No. 6 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rule. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, NO. 6.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to report No. 6.

Your committee have had sundry resolutions and memorials under consideration, and offer the following as the result of their deliberations:

1. A resolution signed by Chas. F. Harvey and Geo. A. Dannelly, asking that Chap. II., Sec. 1, Ans. 3, of new arrangement, be amended by striking out all after the word "body." In this request your committee do not concur.

2. A resolution signed by Guilford Jones and T. L. Boswell, proposing to change Chap. III., Sec. 7, Ques. 2, Ans. 1, by striking out the words "one year" and inserting "two years." The committee recommend non-concurrence.

3. A resolution signed by G. A. Dannelly and C. F. Harvey, proposing to change Chap. III., Sec. 7, Ques. 3, Ans. 1, and Chap. III., Sec. 8, Ques. 3, Ans. 1, be amended by striking from both passages the words "perform the office of matrimony," and substituting the words "solemnize the rite of marriage." In these recommendations your committee concur.

4. A resolution signed by J. E. Evans and S. Anthony, proposing to insert in the new arrangement of the Discipline, in Chap. VI., Sec. 1, pp. 22 and 23, the Chapter in the old form of the Discipline, or some other law of trial, which shall secure to Bishops the right of appeal. Your committee do not think this change expedient, inasmuch as the new arrangement takes from the Committee of Trial the power of

expulsion, and only allows it to suspend until the ensuing General Conference.

5. A paper signed by G. A. Dannelly and James Mackey, proposing a change in the Order of Business of a Quarterly Conference; with which your committee do not agree.

6. A memorial from Kansas City District Conference, proposing such a change in Part 2, Sec. 6, Art. 5, of the old Discipline, as to make deficient preachers beneficiaries of Conference funds. The committee recommend non-concurrence.

7. A resolution signed by J. C. Keener and others, proposing to insert in brackets in the new arrangement, at the end of Sec. 4, Chap. V., the following: "[The change of the Discipline in 1866, removed only so much of the law as made attendance on class a test of membership: the duty of the Presiding Elder, the preacher in charge, and the members of our Church, is undisturbed and specific to maintain this vital institution of Methodism in original force.]" In this the committee concur, except the last three words, which they struck out.

8. A paper signed by W. H. Bobbitt and others, proposing to amend Chap. III., Sec. 10, Ques. 4, Ans. 1, new arrangement, by inserting after the word "Church," "and shall report the extent and result of their labors to the fourth Quarterly Conference." Your committee recommend non-concurrence.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. HAMILTON, Chairman.

A. L. P. Green presented a communication from the Rev. P. M. Pinckard, concerning certain claims on the Board of Domestic Missions, which was referred to Committee on Missions.

The order of the day, being the consideration of certain memorials referring to the removal of the Publishing House, was then taken up.

J. S. Lithgow offered the following preamble and resolution, which were read, and, on motion of P. A. Peterson, the Louisville delegation were granted permission to withdraw their memorial.

The Louisville delegation, after free consultation and due reflection, unanimously adopted the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, the discussion of the question relating to the removal of the Southern Methodist Publishing House from Nashville, Tennessee, to Louisville, Kentucky, may result in injury to the Church; and, in view of the peace and best interests of the entire Church, therefore,

Resolved, That we respectfully ask the privilege of the General Conference to withdraw the memorial presented by this delegation to the

General Conference for the removal of the Book Concern from Nashville to Louisville.

JAMES S. LITHGOW, Chairman.

D. R. McAnally, on behalf of the St. Louis, Missouri, and Illinois delegations, asked permission to withdraw all papers presented by them in regard to the removal of the Publishing House.

On motion of R. S. Moran, they were granted permission.

W. C. Johnson moved the indefinite postponement of the subject. This motion did not prevail.

On motion of J. Hamilton, a special committee of nine was ordered to take into consideration the whole subject of the removal of the Publishing House, and report to this Conference.

Certain resolutions, referring to this subject, offered by E. H. Myers and I. G. John, were read and referred to that committee.

The following memorial from the Rev. T. N. Stewart, and other colored ministers, was presented by J. E. Evans, and read:

MEMPHIS, May 17, 1870.

To the Bishops and General Conference now assembled:

We would respectfully solicit your honorable body to appoint a delegation—say five—to meet the call of the Bishops on the 16th day of December, 1870, at Jackson, Tenn., to confer with our delegates in organizing our contemplated Colored General Conference. If you approve our request, we would sincerely ask that you appoint the Rev. J. E. Evans, of Georgia, the Rev. Dr. S. Watson, of Tennessee, the Rev. Dr. Schon, of Kentucky, the Hon. Thomas Whitehead, of Virginia, and one other lay member, said delegation.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

T. N. STEWART,
BENJAMIN BULLARD,
B. S. NEWTON,
J. F. THOMAS,
WESLEY WARE,
AUGUSTUS BOSTIC,
S. LEATH,
J. CLOPTON,

and others.

On motion of Geo. N. Lester, the request of the memorialists was granted, and R. J. Morgan was chosen as a member of said delegation.

A memorial from T. J. McCoy and others, calling for a Sunday-school Convention, was read and referred to Committee on Sunday-schools.

The question on which Conference adjourned on yesterday, being the motion to adopt as a substitute for Report No. 2 of the Majority of the Committee on Education, the Report of the Minority, was then called up, and C. K. Marshall, who had the floor, was allowed to speak on the subject without regard to the fifteen-minutes' rule.

The question was then discussed by C. K. Marshall, A. R. Winfield, R. Abbey, B. Craven, for, and by A. S. Andrews, A. M. Shipp, and L. C. Garland, against, the adoption of the Minority Report as a substitute for the Report of the Majority. The previous question was then called for by T. E. Bond—the call was sustained, and the substitute was adopted. (See page 240.)

The Chair then announced the Special Committee of Nine on the Publishing House, to wit: E. E. Wiley, S. Regester, J. E. Evans, W. P. Barton, W. C. Johnson, J. S. Lithgow, G. W. Williams, Jos. B. Palmer, Asa Holt.

Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Wednesday Morning, May 18, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Doggett in the chair.

Divine service was performed by D. R. McAnally.

The Minutes were read and approved.

On motion of R. A. Young, F. E. Pitts was granted leave of absence during the remainder of the session, on account of family affliction; and T. Maddin, Reserve delegate from the Tennessee Conference, was allowed to take his place in the Conference and on the Committee on Episcopacy.

Chas. M. Howard, lay Reserve delegate from the Montgomery Conference, in place of W. Garrett, appeared and took his seat.

A. G. Haygood was put on the Committee on Episcopacy in place of W. J. Parks, and L. D. Palmer was put on the Committee on Sunday-schools in place of A. G. Haygood. J. M. Mask was put on the Committee on Episcopacy *vice* Milton Brown.

Bishop McTyeire took the chair.

The Rev. Dr. Burns, of the Baptist Church, was introduced to the Conference.

The Chair then called for reports of Standing Committees.

L. M. Lee, chairman of Committee on Episcopacy, submitted Report No. 4 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 4.

The Committee on Episcopacy beg leave to submit their Report No. 4:

The committee having been instructed to nominate one of our Bishops, or some other competent person, to write the Life of the late venerable Bishop Soule, and it appearing that Bishop Soule himself expressed a desire that, should his Life be written, Bishop Wightman might be selected for the work; and whereas, the committee believe that this desire is very general; therefore,

Resolved, That Bishop W. M. Wightman be nominated to the General Conference to write the Life of Bishop Soule.

L. M. LEE, Chairman.

Also, Report No. 5 of the same committee on Episcopal Decisions, which was read and laid on the table for the present. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 5.

The Committee on Episcopacy beg leave to offer their Report No. 5, as follows:

The committee have had under consideration the matter referred to them by resolution of J. E. Edwards, R. Abbey, and others, proposing an alteration of Chap. II., Ques. 3, Ans. 7, page 63, of Discipline, so that it shall require "a concurrence of two-thirds of all the Bishops to make the decision of a Bishop in an Annual Conference a law of the Church," and the committee do not concur.

They recommend, however, that the last clauses of said answer be replaced by the following words after the words "the College of Bishops," viz., "shall be reported quadrennially to the General Conference for insertion in its Journals, and shall be thereafter published in an Appendix to the Discipline; and when so published, they shall be authoritative interpretations or constructions of the law."

The committee farther recommend that all such decisions heretofore made by the College of Bishops, be inserted in such Appendix to the Discipline—to have the same force and effect as those to which the above rule applies.

L. M. LEE, Chairman.

Also, Report No. 6 of the same committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 6.

The Committee on Episcopacy beg leave to submit their Report No. 6, in the form of a resolution, as follows:

Resolved, That, as to the memorials from Texas, referred to the committee, requesting an increase of Episcopal service in that State, the committee can only recommend that this subject be referred to the consideration of the Bishops, with the request that the prayer of the memorialists be granted.

L. M. LEE, Chairman.

Also, Report No. 7, on an increase of Bishops, which was read and laid on the table for the present. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 7.

The Committee on Episcopacy beg leave to offer their Report No. 7, as follows:

Whereas, the Texas memorials necessarily brought the subject of an increase in the number of Bishops before this committee; and whereas, the committee settled nothing definitely on this subject, having first voted negatively on a resolution that it was inexpedient to increase the number of Bishops, but rejected severally the motions to elect one, two, or three Bishops, and agreeing in nothing farther, finally reconsidered their first-mentioned vote, and then postponed the whole subject indefinitely; now, therefore,

Resolved, That the aforesaid action of the committee be reported to the General Conference.

L. M. LEE, Chairman.

J. E. Edwards, chairman of Committee on Itinerancy, submitted Report No. 4 of that committee. A portion of it only was read, as follows:

The committee, not feeling called on to invite attention, specially, to those cases where there appear to be errors in the administration of the presiding officers of the Conferences, as to the business transacted under their official oversight, and yet believing that the General Conference should not carelessly pass by any thing of even a questionable character in the official administration of our Bishops, submit the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted by the committee, viz.:

Resolved, Inasmuch as the Report herewith submitted to the Conference involves, in some of its aspects, the administration and oversight of the Bishops, that it be referred to the Committee on Episcopacy for their examination before it is finally adopted by the Conference.

On motion of H. A. C. Walker, the Report was referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

Also, Report No. 5 of the same committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rule. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 5.

The committee have duly considered the resolution signed by the delegates from the North Carolina Conference, asking for a change in Sec. 5, Chap. II., page 61, of the Discipline, so as to add, after the word "care," in the fifth line from the top of the page, the following words, "or any other appropriate work in which he may be useful as a minis-

ter of the gospel," and recommend concurrence on the part of the General Conference.

JOHN E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

H. Jewell and others of that committee submitted a Minority Report, which was also read and laid on the table. It is as follows :

MINORITY REPORT.

The Minority of the Committee on Itinerancy respectfully offer the following Report on the resolution of the North Carolina delegation which proposes to change Sec. 5, Chap. II., on page 61, of the Discipline, so as to read, after the word "care," "or to any other appropriate work in which he may be useful as a minister of the gospel among us":

Resolved, That we do not concur in the proposed change.

HORACE JEWELL,
S. P. WHITTEN,
C. I. VANDEVENTER,
T. L. BOSWELL,
W. P. MOUZON.

W. M. Rush, chairman of Committee on Books and Periodicals, presented Reports Nos. 14 and 15 of that committee, which were read and adopted, as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 14.

The Committee on Books and Periodicals beg leave to submit Report No. 14:

Your committee have had under consideration several memorials and resolutions relating to the publication of a Hymn-book and Catechism in the German language, and also the propriety of adopting the Evangelical Apologist, a German Methodist newspaper, as a General Conference paper.

After duly considering these memorials, we offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That we adopt the German Evangelical Apologist as a General Conference paper, to be supervised by the German preachers in New Orleans, and the Executive Committee of the New Orleans Advocate.

2. That ——— be, and hereby is, appointed editor of said paper.

3. That the condition of the above action shall be, that the Book Agent shall not assume any pecuniary liability in the publication of said paper.

4. That the Book Agent be, and he is hereby, authorized to publish a Hymn-book and Catechism in the German language, whenever in his judgment the demand for such publications shall warrant the expenditure involved; *provided*, that in the event of a sufficient appropriation from the Board of Missions toward this object, the Book Agent shall publish the Hymn-book and Catechism immediately.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 15.

Your committee, to whom was referred a paper directing them to inquire into the expediency of publishing in the same volume an abridged and revised edition of the Hymn-book and our Book of Discipline, would respectfully report that, in their judgment, such a publication is inexpedient at present.

Also, having considered the resolution referred to them, intended to secure accuracy and uniformity in statistical reports, would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Book Editor be requested to prepare blank forms for the collection of statistics, to be furnished for uniform use in all the Annual Conferences.

Also, your committee, having inquired into the propriety of authorizing the Book Agent to make arrangements with the Colored M. E. Church, South, when formed, to furnish them with our books and a suitable paper as the organ of that Church, would recommend that the Book Agent be so authorized.

Also, your committee would recommend for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That the publications of the Publishing House be hereafter invariably made in the name of the Publishing House, and not in the name of the Agent, except publications for outside parties, which may or may not have such imprint, as it may be deemed expedient by the Book Agent and Book Editor.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

J. Boring, chairman of Committee on Missions, submitted Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rule.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 1.

In presenting their first Report, the Committee on Missions beg leave to state that, in entering upon their work, they found themselves greatly embarrassed by what seemed to be the natural results of the

system adopted by the General Conference of 1866 upon the subject of Missions. Unwilling to propose a radical change in so short a time, we have sought, by the suggestion of amendments and modifications, so to adapt the system of a Foreign and Domestic Board to the necessities of the case, as to continue it at least four years longer.

With the view to accomplish an end so desirable, the Secretaries of both Boards, Drs. Munsey and McFerrin, were invited by the committee to submit their views upon the subject, which they did, and from which most important information was obtained.

But, after every effort to continue the present organization of our missionary work, we feel compelled, in view of the results of the last four years' experience, the large debts now demanding settlement, the expenses necessarily attending two Boards, and their operations, together with the state of the country, to recommend, most respectfully, the following for the adoption of this General Conference:

SUPPORT OF MISSIONS.—SECTION VII.

ARTICLE I. The missionary operations of the M. E. Church, South, shall hereafter be committed to one Board, under the following provisions and regulations:

ART. II. The Board shall consist of the Bishops of the M. E. Church, South, a Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, one Manager from each Mission District, and five Managers to be appointed by the Bishops.

ART. III. The Secretaries shall be elected quadrennially by the General Conference. The Treasurer shall be elected by the Board, and the District Managers by the delegates from the Conferences comprising each Mission District. If, for any cause, the General Conference shall fail to meet at the appointed time, the Board shall continue in office until the next meeting of the General Conference.

ART. IV. The Annual Conferences of the M. E. Church, South, shall be divided into Mission Districts, as follows:

The First District shall embrace the Baltimore, Virginia, Western Virginia, Holston, Kentucky, and North Carolina Conferences.

The Second District shall embrace the South Carolina, Florida, North Georgia, South Georgia, Mobile, and Montgomery Conferences.

The Third District shall embrace the Louisville, Tennessee, Memphis, Indian Mission, Arkansas, Little Rock, Mississippi, and Louisiana Conferences.

The Fourth District shall embrace the Texas, West Texas, Northwest Texas, East Texas, and Trinity Conferences.

The Fifth District shall embrace the Illinois, Missouri, St. Louis, California, Columbia, and any other Conference which may be formed.

ART. V. The Board shall have authority to make by-laws for regulating its own proceedings; to appropriate money to defray incidental expenses; to provide for the support of superannuated missionaries, and widows and orphans of missionaries, who may not be provided for by any Annual Conference; (it being understood that they shall not receive more than is allowed by the Discipline to other superannuated ministers, widows, and orphans;) to print books for the Indian, German, and Foreign Missions, build houses of worship, school-houses, residences for the missionaries, and defray all other necessary expenses incident to the work under its care. The Board shall also publish annually a statement of its transactions and funds, and lay before the General Conference a report of all its transactions and a statement of its funds up to some convenient day near and prior to the time of holding the General Conference.

ART. VI. The Board shall meet annually to make appropriations for the ensuing year; determine what fields shall be occupied as foreign missions; the number of persons to be employed in each; estimate the sums necessary for the support of each mission; fix the amount which may be drawn for during the year, and the division of said amount between the Foreign and Domestic Missions.

ART. VII. The sums allowed for the support of missionaries shall be sufficient to support them in their work. The Board shall require communications to be made quarterly by each missionary, or from each mission, to the Secretary, giving information of the state and prospects of the missions in which they are employed. No one shall be acknowledged as a missionary, or receive support from the Board, who has not some definite work assigned him, or could not be an effective laborer on a circuit, except as provided for in Art. V.

ART. VIII. The revenue of the Board shall be derived as follows: From annual collections in every congregation, at such time and in such manner as each Annual Conference shall direct; from special collections made by the Secretary; and from donations and legacies.

ART. IX. The Secretary and Corresponding Secretary shall reside at the place where the Board is located, but may be members of any Annual Conference or Conferences. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to travel as far as possible through the Connection, visiting the Annual Conferences, and the missions under the care of the Board, promoting the interests of the missionary cause. It shall also be his duty to attend to all the business of the Board with the government of

the United States, in relation to schools which have been, or may hereafter be, committed to its care in the Indian country, by the Department of the Interior or Commissioner of Indian Affairs. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to journalize the proceedings of the Board; to conduct its correspondence; to give the missionaries any information that may be necessary; to prepare for publication in the Church-papers, monthly, an abstract of the proceedings of the Board, and condensed accounts of the missionary work, and prepare the Annual Report of the Board. The salaries of the Secretary and Corresponding Secretary shall be fixed by the Board.

ART. X. The Treasurer shall hold all the funds of the Board in safe deposit, which deposit shall be made by him as an officer of the Board, subject to his drafts, as such, and his successors in office. He shall also furnish an Annual Report, to be published with the Annual Report of the Secretary.

ART. XI. In case of vacancy occasioned by death, resignation, or otherwise, in the Board, such vacancy shall be filled by the Board until the ensuing General Conference.

ART. XII. Nine members at an annual meeting of the Board, and five members at a called meeting, shall constitute a quorum.

ART. XIII. 1. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference to organize a Conference Board of Missions, which shall appoint its own officers and regulate its own administration, subject to the provisions of this Constitution. Each Conference Board shall pay all its funds into the treasury of the General Mission Board. It shall also furnish to the General Mission Board an annual report, containing the number and names, and an account of the condition, of all the missions within its bounds.

2. It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference Board to make an estimate of the amount necessary for the support of each mission within its bounds, for which amount the President of the Conference shall draw upon the general treasury, provided the sum shall not exceed two-thirds of the amount raised the previous year for Missions by said Conference. Appropriations exceeding this sum must be made by the General Board.

3. Each Annual Conference shall designate the time and manner in which collections for Missions shall be taken up within its bounds. The collections shall be so taken as to enable each contributor to give such direction to his donations as he may desire, and the amounts so contributed shall be distinguished in the Reports of the Treasurer.

4. It shall be the duty of each Presiding Elder to bring the subject

of Missions before the District-meetings, and also before the Quarterly Conference of each circuit and station within his District. Each Quarterly Conference shall appoint a Committee (of not less than three, nor more than five) on Missions, of which the preacher in charge shall be chairman, whose duty it shall be to assist the preacher in raising missionary money.

5. It shall be the duty of the preacher in charge of a circuit or station to institute monthly missionary prayer-meetings, and to encourage the formation of juvenile missionary societies in all the Sabbath-schools within his charge.

ART. XIV. This Board shall be located and domiciled in ———.

ART. XV. This Constitution shall not be altered or amended but by a majority of the General Conference. JESSE BORING, Chairman.

Also, Reports Nos. 2 and 3 of the same committee, which were read and adopted, as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 2.

The Committee on Missions, after due examination into the subject, submit the following resolution in relation to the Indian Mission Conference :

Resolved, That we respectfully recommend the Bishops and Board of Missions to continue the Rev. John Harrell as Superintendent of the Indian Mission Conference. JESSE BORING, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 3.

The Committee on Missions, to whom was referred a resolution of the Texas Conference recommending that the General Conference unite the German work in Texas and Louisiana in a Mission Conference, or District, beg leave to report that they have had the same under consideration, and recommend that said Mission Conference, or District, be not formed; but instead thereof, that as full and free an interchange of German preachers of the Texas and Louisiana Conferences shall be had as may be found practicable by the appointing authorities of the Church.

We farther report that a suitable Hymn-book and Discipline (especially the first) in the German language are regarded as vital to our interests among that valuable people. We therefore recommend that the Bishops be requested to appoint a committee, whose duty it shall be to prepare these and other necessary publications, particularly a Hymn-book; and that the Book Agent be requested to publish such book, or books—the Missionary Board to pay one-half the expenses thereof.

It is also recommended that the editor of the Evangelical Apologist

be authorized, under the direction of the Presiding Elder of the New Orleans District, Louisiana Conference, to organize a Board of Publication, with instructions to establish a fund, the proceeds of which shall be devoted to the publication of the Evangelical Apologist and such German books and tracts as the General Conference may deem necessary for the German work.

Finally, we earnestly recommend that the Missionary Board make appropriations for the German work in Louisiana and Texas, as it will be difficult, if not impossible, to sustain that interest without such assistance.

Respectfully submitted.

JESSE BORING, Chairman.

J. Hamilton, chairman of Committee on Revisal, submitted Report No. 7 of that committee, which was read and laid over under the rule. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, NO. 7.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to offer Report No. 7:

Your committee have had under consideration a variety of resolutions, referred to us by the General Conference, and report upon them as follows:

1. A resolution, signed by C. I. Vandeventer and Jas. H. Birch, proposing a change in the Discipline, on page 97, respecting the Presidency of a Church Conference, the committee recommend non-concurrence.

2. A resolution by Thomas W. Whitehead, G. G. Dibrell, and A. G. Brown, proposing to change the Discipline, Chap. II., Sec. 1, Ans. 1, thus changing the ratio of representation from one to every twenty-eight to one for every fifty members of the Annual Conference; *provided*, that every Annual Conference shall be entitled to one clerical and one lay delegate: your committee recommend non-concurrence.

3. A resolution by H. A. C. Walker and W. H. Fleming, recommending: First, To insert in Chap. II., Sec. 3, Ques. 1, Ans. 1, "Secretary of Church-meeting" before "Superintendent": voted not to concur. Second, On page 56, second item, to insert the word "religious" before "services": your committee find this provided for in the new arrangement. Third, That wherever the words "quarterly-meeting" occur, to strike out "meeting" and insert "Conference": the committee find this already done. Fourth, That on page 57 of the Discipline, in the item after notation 10, all after the word "let" be stricken out. The committee recommend that Ans. 13, page 10, new arrangement, be changed so as to read, "the report of the Trustees shall be made to

the Quarterly Conference in writing, and shall be recorded on the Journal." Fifth, On page 69 of Discipline, to strike out figure "6" and paragraph following, and conform the succeeding notation thereto: in this the committee do not concur, because the requisite change was already provided for. Sixth, That on page 71 of Discipline, line 1, after "report" insert "or cause to be reported": with this recommendation the committee do not concur. Seventh, That on page 240 of the Discipline, figure "4" be stricken out; also the paragraph following, thus leaving the whole matter of salary, etc., with the stewards and pastor, as the Discipline provides on page 248, second paragraph: the committee do not concur, as this matter was already provided for.

4. A resolution from the East Texas Conference, asking that Chap. II., Sec. 11, Ques. 2, new arrangement, Answer be changed so that a local preacher may be eligible to deacon's orders when he shall have preached two years; and that the Answer to Question 3, same page, be so changed that a local deacon may be eligible to elder's orders two years from the date of his election to deacon's orders. In neither of these recommendations do your committee concur.

5. A paper signed by R. S. Moran and N. F. Reid, asking for changes in the Discipline on page 249 relative to the appointment of members of the Joint Board of Finance. Your committee find this matter already provided for in the new arrangement.

6. A resolution signed by O. Fisher and T. C. Barton, asking that the provision of the Discipline that commits the trial and conviction of a member of a Conference to a committee, be so changed as to place that matter in the hands of the Conference and of ministers of the same grade. To this request the committee do not agree.

7. A paper by T. L. Boswell and J. M. Mask proposed to change Chap. VI., Sec. 5, Ans. 1, page 24, new arrangement, by inserting after the word "case" "provided, if in any case said committee should refuse or neglect to perform their duty, the preacher in charge shall proceed to investigate the report," etc. To this proposition the committee do not agree.

8. The resolution by H. H. Montgomery and R. Abbey proposed a change in Chap. VI., Sec. 2, Ques. 1, Ans. 1, by adding, "And when the circumstances are such that the accused cannot be tried at the session of the Conference, the court of trial shall be appointed to try the case during the interval," etc. To this proposal your committee do not agree, as they judge that such trial by committee cannot take place during the interval of Conference under the law in the case.

9. A resolution by W. Shapard and J. B. Cottrell proposed such a

change in the Discipline as will make a member holding a letter of membership amenable to the Church granting the letter: with this proposal the committee do not concur.

Respectfully submitted.

J. HAMILTON, Chairman.

W. H. Foster, from the Committee on Sunday-schools, submitted Report No. 6 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 6.

The Committee on Sunday-schools, to whom was referred a memorial from the delegates from the Pacific Conference in relation to the preparation of a series of catechisms, having considered the subject and reported thereon, (see Report No. 1,) ask to be discharged from the farther consideration thereof.

Respectfully submitted.

W. H. FOSTER, Chairman, *pro tem.*

Also, Reports Nos. 7 and 8 of the same committee, which were read and laid on the table for the present. They are as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 7.

The Committee on Sunday-schools, to whom was referred a memorial from the Sunday-school Society of the Virginia Conference, in regard to the "relation which baptized children sustain to the Church," ask to be discharged from the farther consideration thereof, and suggest its reference to the Committee on Revisal.

Respectfully submitted.

W. H. FOSTER, Chairman, *pro tem.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 8.

The Committee on Sunday-schools recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That the Sunday-school Secretary prepare, and the Book Agent publish, at the earliest practicable day, a suitable manual for the use of superintendents, embracing a plan for organizing schools and conducting the exercises thereof.

Respectfully submitted.

W. H. FOSTER, Chairman, *pro tem.*

Also, Report No. 9 of the same committee, which was read, and, on motion of A. W. Wilson, the first resolution was amended by changing 28 to 40, and by adding, "Provided, however, that every Annual Conference shall be entitled to one representative." After considerable discussion, W. H. Fleming moved the previous question; the call was sustained, and the Report was adopted by a vote of 110 to 81, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 9.

Your committee have had under consideration the memorial presented by T. J. McCoy, T. J. Magruder, Simpson Bobo, and W. H. Foster, upon the subject of a Sunday-school Convention for the entire Church; and report that they most cordially approve the objects of the memorial. Your committee would therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we recommend that a Sunday-school Convention be held on the third Thursday of May, 1871, in the city of ———, composed of delegates to be chosen by the Annual Conferences, from their most efficient Sunday-school men, in the ratio of one member for every forty members of each Annual Conference; provided, however, that every Annual Conference shall be entitled to one representative.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by this Conference to make arrangements for the session of the Convention, and to prepare and publish a programme of business to come before the Convention.

W. H. FOSTER, Chairman, *pro tem*.

A communication from the Rev. J. K. Nichols, D.D., Fraternal Messenger from the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church to this body, was received, read, and referred to a Special Committee of five, as follows: N. F. Reid, O. R. Blue, L. M. Smith, J. C. Granberry, E. W. Massey.

T. M. Finney made a statement in regard to the commutation of fare on the public routes of travel to and from the seat of Conference; and a committee of three was appointed to take this subject into consideration and report to the Conference. The committee is as follows: W. M. Prottzman, T. J. McCoy, H. G. Hall.

A motion of W. Smith and T. E. Bond to hold afternoon sessions from three to six o'clock was, on motion of D'Arcy Paul, laid on the table.

C. Taylor, from Committee on Education, submitted Report No. 3 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, NO. 3.

On the memorial referred to the committee, asking for statistics of our literary institutions, your committee reports the following:

Resolved, That the presidents and principals of institutions of learning under the care of our Conferences be requested to send to the next session of our General Conference, statistical reports according to the following form: 1st, Name of Institution. 2d, Grade. 3d, Location. 4th, When Founded. 5th, When and by whom Chartered. 6th, Name, Title, and Post-office Address of the President or Principal. 7th, Num-

ber and Names of Instructors. 8th, Whole Number of Students—Male—Female. 9th, Value of Grounds, Buildings, and Furniture. 10th, Number of Volumes in Library. 11th, Endowment. 12th, Time of Commencement, or Anniversary Exercises.

Respectfully submitted.

CHAS. TAYLOR, Chairman, *pro tem*.

Also, Report No. 4 of the same committee, which was read and laid over under the rule. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, NO. 4.

On the memorials respecting a course of study for local preachers, the committee begs leave to report as follows:

Resolved, 1. That a course of study be prescribed for local preachers by the Board of Bishops, which shall be substantially the same with that prescribed for itinerant ministers.

2. That, on page 15, new arrangement of the Discipline, Chap. III., Sec. 11, the Ans. to Ques. 2 be amended by substituting for "four years," "two years," and for "proper examination," "approved examination before a committee appointed by the Presiding Elder, of which he shall be chairman, upon the course of study prescribed by the Bishops."

3. That, on the same page (15), the Answer to Question 3 be amended by substituting for "four years," "two years," and for "proper examination," "approved examination before a committee to be appointed by the Presiding Elder, of which he shall be chairman, upon the course of study prescribed by the Bishops."

Respectfully submitted.

CHAS. TAYLOR, Chairman, *pro tem*.

Also, Report No. 5 of the same committee, which was read and laid on the table for the present. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, NO. 5.

On the memorial of Wm. Headen, (a member of this General Conference, and Agent of the Corpus Christi Male and Female Academy,) which was presented to the Conference and referred to this committee, it reports: That the importance of this institution to the interests of Protestant Christianity in the region where it is located can hardly be overestimated.

Situated at the farthest point in the South-west where we have a ministerial charge, on the very confines of Mexico, in the midst of a population mostly Roman Catholic, but which, being greatly disaffected toward its own priesthood, is now ripe for the introduction of Protestantism, it presents one of the most inviting fields for missionary labor

within our reach. Since, therefore, by the instrumentality of this institution, many children of Protestant parents are being recovered from Romanism, and many more Roman Catholic children and youth may be readily brought under our influence; be it

Resolved, 1. That we regard this educational enterprise as highly important to the success of a pure Christianity in the extreme South-west.

2. That we not only heartily approve, but do most earnestly commend it and its claims, as presented by its agent, Brother Wm. Headen, to the warmest sympathy and generous liberality of our people.

3. That some measure be taken at this session, looking to the immediate relief of the Corpus Christi Male and Female Academy.

Respectfully submitted.

CHAS. TAYLOR, Chairman, *pro tem*.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the names of R. H. Vanderhost, of Columbus, Ga., J. H. Anderson, Fort Valley, Ga., R. J. Brown, Macon, Ga., colored ministers, were allowed to be attached to the memorial presented yesterday by T. N. Stewart and others, in respect to the organization of the Colored M. E. Church, South.

A. W. Wilson submitted the Report of the Special Committee on the claim of Reuben Wright against the Board of Foreign Missions, which was read, adopted, and ordered to be published, as follows:

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MEMORIAL OF REUBEN WRIGHT.

The committee to whom was referred the memorial of Reuben Wright beg leave to report:

That Mr. Wright presented four promissory notes, dated Dec. 30, 1860, Jan. 29, 1861, Oct. 21, 1861, and Feb. 4, 1862, two of them drawn by J. C. Robinson, Superintendent, and two by John N. Hamill, Superintendent, and amounting in the aggregate to \$18,736.67. The interest claimed by Mr. Wright would increase this amount to nearly \$50,000.

It was not possible for the committee to ascertain, from any evidence furnished, the correctness of the accounts upon which these notes are based, or the nature of the transactions to which they owe their origin. We were left to inference from the statements of Mr. Wright and the imperfect testimony of the Rev. John Harrell, and, without division or dissent, came to our conclusion, as follows:

The annual appropriations of the Board of Foreign Missions, under whose direction and authority the parties signing these notes acted, were made according to the judgment formed by the Board of the annual needs of the work and the ability of the Church. These appropriations furnished, therefore, the measure of the extent of the

expenditures of all the agents of the Board, and the authoritative announcement of the limit within which the Mission work for the year must be confined. There does not appear before us any proof of necessity to justify a transgression of this limit, nor did the Board authorize the use of its credit by these Superintendents.

It is a just and safe rule, and universally recognized among business men, that the acts of an agent, when he transcends his authority, cannot bind his principal; and, however it may in special cases bear hardly upon parties who, thoughtlessly, or in overweening confidence, deal with agents, any other would work incalculable wrong. The obligation of this rule becomes the stronger in cases where a fiduciary relation is involved. A more rigid economy and more careful observance of the rules of business are expected and required of trustees than of any acting in their own right.

Holding ourselves to be but trustees of the missionary funds, we should regard the affirmation of the acts of our agents transgressing prescribed limits and the payment of claims, founded upon the exercise of an authority that did not belong to them, as the establishment of a precedent capable of unlimited abuse and a great wrong to our people.

The Superintendents, in these cases, undertook costly and extensive improvements upon their own judgment, without the advice or concurrence of the Board of Foreign Missions; they contracted the above stated indebtedness in excess of the annual appropriations, without the authority of the Board and upon their own faith and credit; nor do we believe that they expected or intended that these claims should ever be presented to the Board for settlement. We have only to add that Mr. Wright, as a business man, was conversant with the principles of the agency, was cognizant of the facts in connection with the operations of the Board, and evidently, in these transactions, trusted the personal obligations of the Superintendents. We therefore conclude this suggestion of the case with the following resolution:

Resolved, That the claim of Reuben Wright against the Board of Foreign Missions of the M. E. Church, South, as presented to this committee, be not allowed.

A. W. WILSON, Chairman.

J. S. LITHGOW,

H. H. MONTGOMERY,

W. B. WOOD.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Thursday Morning, May 19, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by W. H. Watkins.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Joshua A. Barnes, lay delegate from the Kentucky Conference, appeared and took his seat.

Bishop Paine took the chair, and called for Reports.

E. H. Myers, from Committee on Episcopacy, submitted Report No. 8 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 8.

The Committee on Episcopacy beg leave to make their Report No. 8, as follows:

The committee, having duly considered the subjects embraced in the paper from the Committee on Itinerancy submitted to them, adopted the following:

Whereas, the paper named is mostly a statement of errors and omissions in the Journals of the Secretaries of the several Annual Conferences—sometimes when a Bishop presided over the Conference, sometimes when there was no Bishop present; and, whereas, the document nowhere gives the name of any Bishop under whose presidency the inaccuracies complained of were overlooked; and, whereas, therefore, the document offers nothing which seriously affects the official administration of any Bishop, and nothing on which to base specific action, if it were desirable, this committee can only refer the paper back to the General Conference for action on the matters contained in it, with the following resolution:

Resolved, That the attention of the Bishops be respectfully called to the action of preceding General Conferences, requiring them to supervise the Conference Journals, and to endeavor to procure accuracy and uniformity in the Journals throughout the Connection.

L. M. LEE, Chairman.

Report No. 4 of Committee on Itinerancy, returned by Committee on Episcopacy, was read, and the committee had leave to withdraw the portion referring to the administration of the Bishops, and the resolution referring the Report to Committee on Episcopacy.

R. A. Young moved to amend by adding the following resolution:

Resolved, That the record of the regular Minute-business be read each morning from the Journal.

This amendment was not adopted.

The Report was then adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 4.

The Committee on Itinerancy has carefully examined the Journals of the several Annual Conferences, under the instructions of the last General Conference requiring "Secretaries of the several Annual Conferences to record all the acts of the Conference, of every kind whatever, in the consecutive order of their occurrence, or in an appendix; especially all complaints, charges, and specifications, with the decisions in all such cases, as also all resolutions, reports of committees, statistics, memoirs, appointments of preachers, and whatever else enters into and constitutes a complete historical record of each Annual Conference;" as also the instructions requiring the Bishops "to supervise the Conference Journals, to direct the Secretaries to the requirements of the General Conference as to the manner of keeping their Journals; to supply Secretaries with copies of their decisions on all questions of law submitted to them in the Annual Conference; and affix their signature, in all cases, to the Minutes of the Conference over which they preside." Under these instructions your committee have conducted their examinations, with the following result, which is respectfully submitted to the Conference:

Baltimore Conference Journal has been kept with marked accuracy and neatness. The marginal notes are so arranged as to facilitate reference. It is a fine specimen of neat, tasteful, complete journalism.

Virginia Conference.—The Journal is found nearly faultless, there being only two omissions worthy of note in four years. On the opening of two morning sessions there is no record of the reading and approval of the Minutes of the previous daily sessions, namely, on the 24th November, 1866, and the 16th November, 1867. With these small exceptions, the Journal is deserving of unqualified praise in all the essentials of a complete record.

Western Virginia Conference.—The first, second, and third sessions have no errors of sufficient note to require report. The Journal is kept with care and taste.

The fourth session, held at Point Pleasant, has no date of year, month, or day. The hour of the day only is noted. This is presumed to be the session of 1869. We note also neglect to follow and record disciplinary questions.

No Bishop present, the Rev. S. K. Vaught was elected President of the Conference. Questions 7th, 8th, and 10th were asked: "Who are elected and ordained?" etc. Answers are recorded, giving names of persons elected and ordained. The Journal should have shown that the persons named were elected, but not ordained.

Your committee respectfully suggest to the General Conference that the questions answered, as above, should be divided, "Who elected," etc., "Who ordained," etc.

On page 104, we note the omission to record a certain paper adopted by the Conference. The entry on page 98 shows that certain brethren died during the year, but not named under the appropriate question; and we find no reference of these names to the Committee on Memoirs, and no report recorded in proceedings or appendix.

On the fifth day of the session, leave of absence was granted to Wm. Gaines Miller, Secretary of the Conference. R. Fox was elected Secretary, *pro tem*. Wm. G. Miller does not appear again on the Journal, and yet, on the final adjournment of the Conference, he signs the Minutes.

On page 101, the name of S. Hargiss is omitted, and substituted by the name of Geo. L. Warner, in an important connection, and should be corrected on the Journal.

On the first day of this session, a judiciary committee is appointed. On the third day, "papers from the Glennville Quarterly Conference, in the case of Rev. McCutchen, were referred" to this committee. Sixth day, this committee reports, and, on motion, the case is dismissed for want of jurisdiction. Same day, this action is reconsidered, and "papers laid on the table"—waiting on Episcopal decisions—and a committee appointed to lay the evidence before the College of Bishops. In all this there is no statement of the history, nature, or character of the case, showing a very incomplete and defective record.

On page 97, (no question recorded,) "George J. Conner, (deacon,) called, character passed, and, on motion, admitted into full connection, and elected to elder's orders, and required to complete his course of study for the third and fourth years."

Page 104, S. Black and others enter a protest against the action of the Conference, in this case, in the following words: "Whereas, the Discipline forbids the election of traveling preachers to deacon's or elder's orders without an approved examination on the Course of Study," etc. This committee think the protest well taken, as otherwise a dangerous precedent might obtain in some of the Conferences. (See Dis., p. 74.)

Page 96, under Question 15, the name of J. P. Johnson is called, and his "case laid over."

Page 98, his "case is called and referred to a special committee, and on motion he is permitted to have counsel, not a member of the body." From this action an appeal is taken by a member.

Page 103, the Special Committee submit their Report, which is

adopted; and all this without any record of charges, specifications, testimony, or other history of the nature of the case.

North Carolina Conference.—The Journal of the Conference session of 1866 is found defective in several particulars. Frequent blots, scrawls, erasures, and interlineations; difficult to read.

On first page we read, "For information, the standing committees appointed at last Conference were announced," but who or what they were does not appear. Also, "a committee of three was appointed on the support of the ministry;" names not given.

On second page, Question 15 taken up. Question not recorded. Under this question "Solomon H. Helsebeck, through his Presiding Elder, asked for a location, which was granted." This should have been recorded under its appropriate question, which is not the 15th.

"Questions 12 and 13 taken up;" not recorded. Under those questions the characters of several supernumerary and superannuated preachers were taken up and passed; not the proper questions. From the second day of the session to the close it does not appear that any one was in the chair.

"Question 15 was resumed, when N. A. H. Goddin passed examination of character, and was located at his own request through his Presiding Elder."

Again, "Question 15 was taken up, when S. R. Traywick was located at his own request." This matter is not under its appropriate question.

We find other matter under questions foreign to the subject. We note, also, the reception of Hiram P. Cole on trial, without any record of recommendation or examination. We note farther irregularities and omissions in recording business without any question, as, for example, "W. M. Walsh was continued in the superannuated relation." Statistics reported under no question. So of the appointments of the preachers. Fifth day—Committee on Education reported, and the report was adopted, but not recorded.

Questions 7, 11, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, not asked; Journal not paged.

Conference session of 1867—on pages 14 and 15 we read, "Question was taken up, when it appeared there were no preachers of the third year." The question itself is not recorded, nor its numerical order given.

Again, we read, "Question was taken up, when J. E. Thompson passed the examination of character, passed on all his studies, was questioned by the Bishop in open Conference, and was elected to dea-

con's orders, and admitted into full connection;" but, as before, the question is not recorded.

And yet again we read, "Question taken up—the Districts were called," etc., but the question itself is omitted.

On page 29 the Journal is dated Washington, 1868, when it should be 1867.

Conference session of 1868, we find on pages 65 and 66 a committee reported, and the report adopted. It was then reconsidered, amended, and adopted, but nowhere appears in the records of the Conference.

Session of 1869, sixth day—resolutions were offered and adopted marked "M," but not recorded. Also, resolutions offered by M. L. Wood unanimously adopted by a rising vote, marked "N," but not recorded. Also, resolutions adopted on motion of H. F. Hudson, marked "P," not recorded. As, also, Report of Treasurer of Board of Domestic Missions, read, amended, and adopted, but not recorded.

At the session of 1868, N. F. Reid stated that the charges and specifications presented against J. W. Tucker, and referred to him for investigation as Presiding Elder, had been investigated by a committee; and that he had present all the papers in the case.

A committee of nine was appointed to reconsider and determine the charges against J. W. Tucker.

On page 59, we read, "The committee appointed to try the charges preferred against Rev. J. W. Tucker, have carefully examined the whole case. They have found Joel W. Tucker guilty of the charge of immorality, which was preferred against him, and have expelled said Joel W. Tucker from the Methodist Episcopal Church, South."

There is no record of charges and specifications found in the Journal.

South Carolina Conference.—At the session of 1866, the third day's proceedings were not read and approved.

Session of 1867, Rev. J. B. McFerrin, D.D., is spoken of as Secretary of Foreign Missions. The last day's proceedings not read and approved. Minutes of the last two days not read and approved. In all other respects the Journal has been well kept, and is deserving of a high measure of praise.

South Georgia Conference.—The Journal is, in the main, correct. There is, however, a single omission, for three consecutive sessions of this body, as to the presence of any presiding officer in the chair, after the day on which the Conference assembled and commenced business.

At the session of 1867 there is a record of the expulsion of a cer-

tain member for "immorality," but no record of charges, specifications, or evidence in the case.

At the session of 1868 it is stated that the Statistical Report was read with the entry, "see Report," but the Report nowhere appears of record.

The Journal of the *Georgia Conference* for 1866, states that the Committee on Memoirs "closed" their report in the case of John Simmons, and the Appendix contains the report, but there is no mention of the decease of the brother in answer to the question, "What preachers have died during the year?"

The Journal is not paged, and there are but few marginal notes.

North Georgia Conference.—The Journal for the years 1867, 1868, and 1869, is a model of Conference Journalism, as a whole, but, like the South Georgia Journal, it contains the strange omissions, for three consecutive years, of any note as to the official occupancy of the chair, from day to day, after the opening of the session, except in three or four afternoon and night sessions near the close of the Conference. With the exceptions alluded to, the Journal cannot be too highly commended.

Florida Conference.—The Journal of 1866 not before the committee. At the 24th session, 1867, Questions 5, 9, 11, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, not asked, and the Report of the Board of Domestic Missions not recorded.

At the 25th session, held January, 1869, Questions 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 10, 15, were asked—the rest omitted.

At the 26th session, held December, 1869, Questions 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 15, were asked—the rest omitted. The Journal for this session not signed by the Secretary.

Montgomery Conference Journal is found unexceptionable, bating the fact that it is not paged, and has a running heading foreign to the subject. Otherwise, (and these exceptions are trivial,) it is an admirably-kept Journal.

Mobile Conference.—In the Journal of the third session of the Conference, held November, 1866, there are the following defects:

The Journal is not paged. The Report of the Committee on Memoirs is commenced, but not completed. Two and a half pages of the Journal at that place left blank. The Report on the Fund for Delegates to the General Conference is not recorded. Also, reports from the Committee on District-meetings adopted and referred to, but not recorded. The 16th Question is asked and unanswered; and nearly three pages of the Journal at that place left blank. The Report of the Financial Board is referred to, but not recorded. There is no record of the reading of the Minutes of the last day of the session.

In the Journal of the fourth session, held December, 1867, are the following defects:

The Journal is not paged. In the Minutes of Monday morning session there is no record of the reading of the Minutes of Saturday. The statistics are very meager. There is no account of the Minutes of the Monday afternoon and night sessions having been read and approved.

In the Journal of the fifth session, held December, 1868, we notice on page 7, after the record of the adjournment of the Conference for the day, the 5th Question is asked and answered. On page 8, the Report on the Religious Interests of the Colored People is referred to, but not recorded. On page 20, a report on the location of a Female College was adopted, and is referred to, but not recorded. There is no account of the Minutes of the last meeting of the session being read and approved. Nor does the Journal state how the Conference adjourned, or that it adjourned at all.

In the Journal of the sixth session, held December, 1869, a memorial from the District-meeting of the Mobile District is referred to, but, excepting the resolution, is not journalized. The Report of the Board of Finance, the report of the committee to reconsider the commission of the Rev. Dr. Meredith, and the report supplementary to the Financial Report, were severally adopted, but not recorded. No statistics recorded. No account of the Minutes of the last meeting of the session being read and approved.

Louisiana Conference.—On page 20, Conference session of 1866, page 22, and page 24, the action of several committees is reported and adopted by the Conference, but no record of the reports, either in the body of the Journal or Appendix. Questions 12, 14, 16, 22, not noted, though the matter of the answers to these questions is contained in the Journal.

Session of 1867, many of the questions not propounded, but the substance of the answers given.

On page 91, session 1868, page 92, and on page 93, we have the fact recorded that the Committee on Sunday-schools, on Ministerial Support, and on Education, severally reported, and the Reports were adopted, but in no instance is the body of the Report recorded.

In the case of James A. Ivey, in reference to whom a committee was appointed, it is stated, page 96, that the committee made their report, and a resolution was adopted passing his character, and another returning the papers containing complaints to his Presiding Elder; but there is no record of what the complaints were in this case.

On pages 98, 130, 133, and 134, reports of committees are presented

and adopted. The resolutions in some instances are recorded, but there is no record of the reports themselves, either in the body of the Journal or in the Appendix.

Mississippi Conference.—We find the Journal of the Mississippi Conference correct in all particulars:

Memphis Conference.—Journal well kept, and very neatly recorded. We find, however, a number of little errors and inaccuracies, which mar the Journal.

At the 27th session, page 120, the 3d and 7th Questions were taken up at the same time. No answer to Question 21. Question 23 is omitted, and in lieu thereof it is stated, "the following appointments were made:"

The Minutes of the trial of D. F. Tabb are not recorded.

At the 28th session, 1867, page 156, it is said the Conference adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop, while there is no record showing that a Bishop was even present. On page 157, we find Questions 3 and 7 taken up at the same time as at the previous session.

Many circuits report no statistics at all.

The report of committee on the trial of A. B. Sollers is said to be recorded in Appendix, but not found.

At the 29th session, 1868, Question 23 not recorded.

At the 30th session, 1869, page 265, Question 16 not stated; and on page 272, blank not filled. Page 279, Minutes not stated to have been read and approved, and Question 23 omitted.

Tennessee Conference.—The Journal of this Conference is very well and neatly kept, and shows but few faults. No Financial Report is recorded for the year 1867. The record of the trial and suspension of a member is given, and yet no record of charges, specifications, or testimony.

On page 119, this Conference excuses a violation of law by certain Quarterly Conferences.

There is no Financial Report on record for 1869.

On page 125, there is the report of a committee on the investigation of charges, specifications, etc., against a member, and yet the charges and specifications are not given.

Holston Conference.—The Journal is, in the main, unexceptionable. In the Minutes of the session of 1866, in two instances, (pages 77 and 85,) no mention is made of the presiding officer. Altogether, this Journal merits high commendation for its general accuracy and completeness.

Kentucky Conference.—The records of this Conference for 1866

were not before your committee—an omission which often occurs at the close of a volume—but which should not be allowed.

In general, the Journal is well kept; a few errors and a few omissions, however, may be noticed:

In the record of 1867, the names of the members of the Joint Board of Finance are not given.

"Action" is sometimes "taken" on given subjects, but nothing is given to show what that action was.

No "Joint Board of Finance" appointed at the close of any session, as is customary, and required by law.

Louisville Conference.—We note omissions as to the official occupancy of the Chair, in a number of instances. On the first day of the 21st session, (Journal, page 188,) the Bishop not being present, Dr. Linn was elected President of the Conference. On the second day the business was taken up without noting who was in the chair, though it appears the Bishop was then present. A like omission occurs at the 22d session, (Journal, page 256,) and again at the opening of the 23d session, as also on the first and second days of the 24th session. With these exceptions, the Journal appears complete, and worthy of commendation.

St. Louis Conference.—The Journal is free from even inaccuracies. It is pronounced entirely unexceptionable in every particular of a Conference Journal.

Missouri Conference.—The Journal is nearly faultless. On page 40, session of 1866, in answer to question, "What local preachers are elected and ordained elders?" it is recorded, "The following names were called, characters passed, and they elected." This is a small oversight. The Journal deserves very high praise for its accuracy and neatness as a whole.

Arkansas Conference.—There is no record of the Conference held in 1866 in the hands of the committee. The record of 1867 breaks off before the close of the session, and the appointments of the preachers, and possibly many other things, are not recorded.

In 1868, the Conference adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock P.M., and nothing follows but the appointments of the preachers.

The Journals for 1867 and 1868 are not signed by President or Secretary.

Great irregularity appears under the usual questions. Admitting on trial is recorded under Question 2d, "Who remain," etc. Election to elder's orders is recorded under Question 1st, "Who are admitted," etc. The transfer of a preacher to another Conference is recorded under

Question 2d, "Who remain on trial?" A transferred preacher is recorded under Question 15th, "Are all the preachers blameless," etc.

The following singular record is found in the Journal of 1867: "Francis M. Moore, who was discontinued at our last session on account of his absence, came forward and showed, through J. M. P. Hickerson, his Presiding Elder, that he had been formerly received into full connection in the itinerancy, and elected to deacon's orders by the East Texas Conference during the prevalence of the late war, and at a time he could not reach the Arkansas Conference to be received—therefore, on motion of said Hickerson, the action of the East Texas Conference in the premises was legalized by this Conference, and Francis M. Moore recognized as a member of the Arkansas Conference in full connection, regularly elected to deacon's orders."

Here we have the singular fact of one Annual Conference legalizing the acts of another; and the still stranger feature that the alleged acts are not true; for the statement that Francis M. Moore had been received into full connection, and elected to deacon's orders by the East Texas Conference, turns out not to be true. The Journal of the East Texas Conference for 1865, shows that F. M. Moore was elected to deacon's orders under Question 8th, "What local preachers," etc. Such a record as this is untrue, illegal, and ought to be corrected.

Little Rock Conference.—We note, page 2, a communication received, but not disposed of in any way. Page 15, Report of Committee on Memoirs, in the cases of John Harris, Fountain Brown, Malcombe H. Turner, Franklin F. Bond, and J. C. L. Aikin, not recorded. Page 20, Stewards' Report incomplete. For the year 1867, Question 16 very imperfect. Pages 38, 39, 40, 41, and 60, show no record of Minutes read and approved.

Session of 1868, page 62, memoirs of Ratcliffe and Crowson not recorded, though the record in the daily proceedings say they are on — page. No reports for this session recorded.

Session of 1869 correct, save in the omission to record a report.

Indian Mission Conference.—In the Journal of 1867, page 282, in answer to the 14th Question, "What preachers have died during the year?" we find the name of Thomas Bertholf. On page 234 there is an entry noting the reading of his obituary, but no record of the same is found, as required by the law.

In the Minutes of 1868, we find reference to reports from various committees being read and adopted, but no record of them in any form.

At the session of 1869, we find no account of the Minutes having

been read from day to day, during the entire session. Also, the obituaries of two deceased brothers presented, read, and adopted, but not recorded. In other respects the Journal appears to be correct.

Texas Conference.—This Journal is well kept, and we find in it, altogether, much to commend.

At the session of 1866, the appointments of the preachers not recorded, though the Journal is duly signed by the Bishop.

On page 310 we find this singular entry: "Question 1 was taken up, whereupon the following action was taken: The petition of John S. Clower was presented by Brother R. Alexander, P. E., and his request was granted." What the request was, we are not informed.

East Texas Conference.—We note uniform omission to enter the names of those present at roll-call.

At the session of 1866, S. A. Williams, reported deceased; S. Lynch and F. Wilson, in 1867; A. H. Shanks and Jos. Bond, in 1868; and J. R. Burk, in 1869. Reports are presented on the decease of these brethren, and adopted, but not recorded.

In 1867, there was no report from the Committee on Memoirs. Indeed, we note uniform omission to record reports. The Journal is not paged.

Trinity Conference.—Journal is reported perfect. This is the very highest praise we can give it.

North-west Texas Conference.—In the Journal of 1866 we note the omission to state who occupied the chair on three of the daily sessions. Session of 1867, same omission in two instances. Session of 1868, same omission in two instances. At the session of 1869, we find the following record: "The name of Thos. Whitworth was called, and he was located according to Discipline."

West Texas Conference.—The Journal of this Conference shows considerable irregularity in the disciplinary questions on the business of an Annual Conference.

On page 92, the "case" of a member is reconsidered, a special committee appointed to take into consideration all the complaints against him, and report for the action of Conference; and, on page 93, this committee reports a conditional resolution to the effect that "his Presiding Elder appoint a committee of three, who shall examine all the accusations against him; and if he is found *innocent enough* in their judgment for his character to pass, it is, in this act of the committee, passed; but if this is not the case, they shall punish him as they think right, and report to the next session of the Conference." And all this without any statement of charges, specifications, history or nature of

the case. Query: How "innocent" must a man be, in the judgment of a committee of three, in order to the passage of his character?

The Journal of this Conference shows other cases of trial and punishment, with no record of charges, specifications, etc.

The committee submit to the Conference whether or not the administration is according to law and usage in the above-mentioned case, under the "conditional resolution."

Columbia Conference.—Journal very well kept. We note the omission to record the notice given by the Bishop of the ordination of deacons and elders.

Pacific Conference.—We find no mention of the presence of a Bishop, or of any other presiding officer, on the third and fourth days of the session of 1866. With this exception, the Journal contains a complete record of the Conference proceedings.

Illinois Conference.—This Journal is found free from errors and omissions. As a whole, it is worthy of high commendation. It might be improved by inserting a larger number of marginal notes and references.

The committee beg leave to submit the following resolutions for the adoption of the Conference, with the design of still farther tending to improve and perfect the Journals, as historical records of our Annual Conferences:

Resolved, 1. That the Secretaries of the Annual Conferences, for the sake of greater convenience, be requested to use such books for their records as will conveniently comprise the regular proceedings of the four annual sessions coming between the sessions of the General Conference, with the Appendix for reports, etc., so that only one book of medium size shall be necessary to be forwarded to the General Conference for the use of the Committee on Itinerancy.

2. That the Secretaries be requested to keep up a running heading, from page to page of the Journals, stating the date of the Conference session.

3. That the Bishops be respectfully requested to see that the regular questions are recorded by the Secretaries in their numerical order, and answered; and that they give particular direction as to the recording the memoirs of the deceased preachers, and the reports of committees.

JOHN E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

L. M. Lee, chairman of Committee on Episcopacy, submitted Report No. 9 of that committee, which was read, laid on the table under the rule, and, on motion of T. Reed, made the order of the day for Saturday, May 21, at 10 o'clock A.M. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 9.

The Committee on Episcopacy having been "instructed to inquire into the validity of the last proviso in the Restrictive Rules, under the circumstances of its introduction into the Discipline, and to report whether any additional legislation is necessary respecting said rule; and having given their careful attention to the subject, beg leave to submit the following as the result of their deliberations:

The resolution contains two distinct subjects:

First. As to "the validity of the last proviso in the Restrictive Rules, under the circumstances of its introduction into the Discipline." And,

Second. As to "whether any additional legislation is necessary respecting said rule."

We consider them in the order of their statement.

First. As to the validity of the proviso.

The resolution, in its terms and intent, suspects the constitutional validity of the proviso, and supposes the presence of something in "the circumstances of its introduction into the Discipline" that invalidates its authority, and renders it of no effect as a provision for investing the Episcopacy with the right or power to veto an act of the General Conference. The suspicion expressed in the resolution is justified by "the circumstances" under which the proviso was "introduced into the Discipline." It was the act, simply and solely, of a majority vote of the General Conference. The resolution putting it into the Discipline, and giving it the authority of law, with the quality and power of a restrictive rule of the Church, both as to the rights of the Episcopacy and the powers of the General Conference, was introduced and adopted on the 31st of May, at the General Conference of 1854. The resolution originated with the late Rev. W. A. Smith, D.D. But, after its adoption, and on more mature reflection, he did not regard it as complete and authoritative, as enacted in 1854; and sought, at the General Conference of 1866, to correct and legitimate what he believed to be defective and imperfect in its character and authority as a law. The position it occupies in the Discipline, as related to, and a part of, the Constitution, recognizes and proclaims it as one of the constitutional provisions of the Church; and yet it is isolated, in form and authority, from other provisional exceptions of the Constitution, and becomes a part of the Constitution, not by an appeal to the original and ultimate authority of the Church, but by a mere majority vote of the General Conference. The General Conference may, under certain limitations and restrictions, make rules and regulations for the government of the

Church, by a majority vote; but it cannot add to, or take from, the restrictions imposed upon it by the Church, by the vote of a majority of its own members. If, therefore, the proviso in question be regarded as a law of the General Conference, it is out of place and without authority as a part of the Constitution; and if it be held as in and of the Constitution of the Church, it is still invalid and without force, because it has not the sanction, and is without the authority, of the Church. It is not constitutionally a part of the Constitution.

Again: The supposition that the proviso added to the Constitution by vote of the General Conference, in 1854, is valid, and possesses the force of law, rests upon two assumptions, neither of which is true. It assumes, first, that the right or power to veto an act of the General Conference is inherent in the Episcopacy; and, second, that the General Conference, in its own right, possesses the power of determining the constitutionality of its own acts.

I. As to the first of these assumptions, it is enough to say, as a broad, general view of the subject, that whatever may be held as an abstract idea of the inherent rights and powers of the Episcopacy, the right or the power of veto, as a prerogative of the Episcopal office, has neither been held as a principle nor exercised as a power in our Church. Its need has sometimes been felt, and its utility, under well-defined limitations and restrictions, will be readily acknowledged; but the Church has never conferred it, and the Bishops have never used it. Besides, the doubts as to the validity of the proviso now in the Discipline, must satisfy every thoughtful person that the veto power contained in the proviso is not the recognition of an inherent right or original power of the Episcopacy, but is the creation of the General Conference at the time and "under the circumstances of its introduction into the Discipline." And, in addition, the proviso itself, both in the power it assumes and the right it confers, has nothing older than itself, or outside of itself, or independent of itself, to establish its self-assumed power, or to legitimate its well-intended, but unauthorized, rights. As it does not either recognize or assert the inherent veto power of the Episcopacy, and did not, because it could not, confer it, it may be safely affirmed, on the broad general view we are now taking, that the veto power does not inhere in the Episcopal office, and does not belong to it by any legitimate act or authorization of the Church. The General Conference, in the act we are considering, did not possess the power, and could not confer the right or the power, of veto upon the Episcopacy of the Church.

Pursuing the inquiry as to the inherence of the veto power in the

Episcopacy, we turn from these general views of the subject to the especial facts of our Church-history and government, which may be regarded as authoritative exponents both of the fact and the principle we are seeking to solve and establish. The following facts need only to be stated :

1. The right or power of veto is not recognized or conceded, either by expression or implication, in the composition or constitution of the delegated General Conference, or in the rights and powers by which it was authorized to assemble and make rules and regulations for the government of the Church.

2. The Episcopacy of the Church has never assumed or asserted, and does not seem ever even to have suspected the inherence in the Bishops, or their office, of the right or power to veto an act of the General Conference.

3. The General Conference, except in the resolution of 1854, has not, by any expression of opinion, or act of legislation, indicated the knowledge or belief, or even the suspicion, of any such right or power in the Episcopacy ; and even the resolution of 1854 contains in itself the evidence of the fact that it was the spirit and purpose of the act to call into being and give form and power to a right not previously existing, and yet felt to be important, if not necessary, to the security and permanence of our ecclesiastical system. The act clearly was, and was intended to be, a creative act.

4. When, in 1820, the General Conference by resolution made Presiding Elders elective by the Annual Conferences, and thereby denied to the Episcopacy both the right and the power of appointing them, the Senior Bishop, McKendree, believed the act to be unconstitutional, because it interfered "with the plan of our itinerant General Superintendency," and was, therefore, in conflict with one of the restrictions upon the power of the General Conference. At the same time Joshua Soule was elected Bishop, but declined consecration, and resigned the office, because he believed the act to be unconstitutional, and could not accept an office that imposed obedience to the resolution. The Senior Bishop prepared a protest "pronouncing the resolution unconstitutional, and therefore destitute of the proper authority of the Church." He did not, however, present the protest, because, under these combined influences, the General Conference suspended the operation of the resolution, and, in 1824, repealed it. These are historical facts. And, in their essential nature and qualities, they ignore and repudiate both the idea and the fact that the right or the power of veto resides in the Episcopacy. The conclusion is too plain and positive for doubt or disputation.

On all the grounds, then, as herein set forth and established, that deny and disprove the inherency of the right or power of veto in the Episcopacy, the assumption of such right, as validating the resolution of 1854, falls to the ground, and with it the supposition of the validity and authority of the proviso also falls; and the proviso itself is therefore, in this view of it, void as legislation, and of no effect as law.

II. The second point of the supposition that the proviso in question is valid, and possesses the force of law, rests, as has been stated, upon the assumption that the General Conference, in its own right, possesses the power of determining the constitutionality of its own acts. A starting-point in the argument against this assumption may be well taken in the opinion and words of the late venerable Senior Bishop of our Church, the Rev. Joshua Soule, uttered as long ago as 1824. He then said: "The General Conference is not the proper judge of the constitutionality of its own acts. If the General Conference be the sole judge of such questions, then there are no bounds to its power." It might be added, and no security against its power, or its encroachments upon the integrity and unity of the Church, or the rights of its ministers. But we do not draw arguments from the possible intolerance of power, or the apprehensions of danger; nor rest them upon opinion—even the opinion of so good and great a man as Joshua Soule. We take higher and stronger grounds. Our own constitutional history is the field; its facts, our argument. But we do not traverse its circumference; we only take the dimensions of its density and its diameter. We present the whole argument in propositions that contain their own conclusions, and at the same time contradict the assumption that the General Conference, in its own right, possesses the power of determining the constitutionality of its own acts.

1. The General Conference is not an original body, self-existent and independent. It is the creation of another body, larger and stronger than itself. It does not possess original life or power. It has power; but its powers are derived and dependent. Again: it is representative; represents a power behind and outside of itself; existing before and independent of itself. The General Conference has a Constitution; but it did not make its Constitution. It was made for it by another body, and before it had a being. Its own being and power reside in, and are derived from, the Constitution that another gave it, and that gives it organic life and power. The terms and tenor of the restrictions upon its power show its responsibility, and prove that the right of determining the constitutionality of its acts was reserved, and remains in the hands of the original body of elders.

2. The General Conference is a delegated body, with delegated powers. It was constituted, and its constitutional prerogatives and powers defined and limited, by the body of elders of the Church in General Convention assembled, in 1808. Previous to 1808, the whole body of elders, in quadrennial session, possessed the legislative power of the Church, and made all rules and regulations for its government. For sufficient and satisfactory reasons, they then determined to delegate their powers, under certain limitations and restrictions, to an elective body of elders, to be chosen from and by the members of the several Annual Conferences. Subsequently, in 1828, the first proviso of the Constitution, as it now stands, defining the means and mode by which any one of the six restrictions, except the first, which is held to be unalterable, may be altered, was adopted, and became a part of the Constitution. Within the limitations specifically stated, the General Conference has "full powers" to make rules and regulations for our Church: outside of the restrictions, it has no power to make, to modify, or to revoke: to effect either of these changes, or any other, it is compelled to remit the subject to the judgment of the original body of elders.

3. The General Conference is a dependent and responsible body: dependent for its being and authority upon the original body of elders, and responsible to them for its fidelity in the use of the powers delegated to it. But without some provision of the Constitution, such as was aimed to be established in the proviso under consideration, there is no legitimate or authoritative mode, either of questioning the constitutionality of their acts, or of remitting them to another tribunal for adjudication. And in the absence of suitable provision for this purpose, the General Conference may exercise the power, even if it do not claim the right of determining the constitutionality of its own acts; and, in such an event, the General Conference absorbs all power into itself, its responsibility ceases, and it can "revoke, alter, change, or destroy" even the Constitution itself, at its own will and by its own act. Such power was not given to it, nor intended to be given. But all this power would have been given, if, in what was given, was included the right of determining the constitutionality of its own acts. The original body of elders delegated every thing of power they possessed, if they delegated this power. They reserved nothing to themselves, if they did not reserve the right to guard their own Constitution: if they did not reserve the right of determining the constitutionality of the acts of the delegated body: if they did not reserve the right to hold their agents and representatives in the grasp of a grave, dignified, and

ceaseless responsibility to themselves as the ultimate and only legitimate judge of their acts, and of their fidelity to the engagements and obligations of the Constitution, made and provided for their especial guidance and government. It is incredible that such a body of men as those who inaugurated the Constitution of the Church, and checked and restrained the General Conference with such limitations to their acts, and such restraints upon their power, could have been so incautious and inconsiderate as to dispossess and deprive themselves so utterly of any farther and all future relations to, and control over, those to whom they intrusted their rights and delegated their powers. Such a supposition would be an assault upon their integrity and intelligence, as unjust as it is unmerited.

In view, then, of the foregoing facts and arguments, and in consideration of the farther fact that the proviso in question, for "its introduction into the Discipline," and for its validity as a part of the Constitution, rests solely upon the vote of the General Conference, your committee is of the opinion that it is defective in authority as a law, and that it is not, and of right cannot be, either received or maintained as a part of the Constitution of the Church.

We were instructed to inquire and report—

Second. As to "whether any additional legislation is necessary respecting said rule."

If the General Conference accepts the conclusions of its committee, the invalidity of the proviso, and its consequent incompetency to fulfill the objects of its incorporation into the Discipline, are already determined. The only question deserving of consideration now, concerns the desirableness of such an addition to the Constitution. The need of it has been often felt, and the absence of the provision and its powers, for their conservative influence, and as a check upon hasty and improper legislation, as often deplored. There can be scarcely a doubt as to the necessity of such a definition of the rights of the Episcopacy, and the powers of the General Conference, as it was believed would be secured and settled by the resolution adopted in 1854. Right is not always secure or strong. Power is cumulative, aggressive, self-willed. Right and power are often antagonistic. Undefined right is uncertain and insecure. Uncontrolled power is grasping and ambitious: the one needs a shield, the other a bridle. Both, in their relations to each other and to the Church, will be better with legislative definitions and constitutional guards.

Besides, in the possible contingency of a disagreement between the Bishops and the General Conference, as to the constitutionality of any

act of legislation, a contingency that may often and at any time occur, there is now no established rule of procedure for the adjustment of the issue, or the settlement of its difficulties. The security and peace of the Church may, in such a case, receive great damage. Is it not the dictate of wisdom to "foresee the evil," and prevent it by necessary legislation?

Assuming, as we may be free to do, from the act of the General Conference in 1854, that that act was the evidence of a desire and the expression of a purpose to supply a need of the Church long and often painfully felt, and desiring that the Church may be freed from the apprehension of evil from emergencies that may arise from differences and disagreements as to acts of legislation, or questions of right or power, may we not venture to express the hope that the General Conference will so far agree with its committee in its opinion as to the necessity of foreclosing the whole subject by appropriate legislation, as to adopt the resolutions hereunto annexed, and thereby do itself the credit of consummating the work so well begun by the aggregate body of elders in 1808, and of securing to the Episcopacy rights and powers they have not asked, but always deserved and needed, and which, we may both hope and believe, they will well use and never abuse?

Your committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions as conclusive of the subject, and necessary to legitimate and perfect the object contemplated and sought by the proviso of 1854:

Resolved, 1. That the last paragraph, on page 44 of the Discipline, beginning with "Provided," and ending with the words "null and void," be stricken out.

2. That the following proviso, if it receive a two-thirds majority of this body, be sent round to the several Annual Conferences; and if it receive a three-fourths vote of the same, it shall be inserted in the Discipline in lieu of the aforesaid paragraph;

"Provided, That when any rule or regulation is adopted by the General Conference, which, in the opinion of the Bishops, is unconstitutional, the Bishops may present to the Conference which passed said rule or regulation, their objections thereto, with their reasons; and if then the General Conference shall, by a two-thirds vote, adhere to its action on said rule or regulation, it shall then take the course prescribed for altering a restrictive rule, and if thus passed upon affirmatively, the Bishops shall announce that such rule or regulation takes effect from that time."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

LEROY M. LEE, Chairman.

W. M. Rush, chairman of Committee on Books and Periodicals, submitted Report No. 16 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 16.

Your committee, to whom was referred a memorial inquiring into the practicability and propriety of cheapening our books and publications, would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Book Agent be, and he is hereby, instructed to reduce the price of our books and publications whenever, in his judgment, the interests of the Publishing House will allow.

Your committee have had under consideration the memorial referred to them, signed by the delegates from the Pacific Conference, asking that a Book Agency or Depository be established in the city of San Francisco, and would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Book Agent be instructed to furnish our publications to our Church on the Pacific Coast upon advantageous terms.

Your committee, having carefully considered the Quadrennial Exhibit of your General Book Agent, find that the business of the Publishing House has been conducted in strict conformity with the regulations and directions of the General Conference laid down in our Book of Discipline.

Also, your committee have had their attention directed to the faithful, diligent, and able manner in which your General Book Editor has discharged the numerous and arduous duties of his office. We offer the following resolution for adoption by the General Conference:

Resolved, That the General Conference hereby expresses its high satisfaction with the efficient and successful manner in which the interests of the Publishing House have been conducted by the Rev. A. H. Redford, D.D., General Book Agent, and the Rev. T. O. Summers, D.D., General Book Editor.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

R. Alexander, chairman of Committee on Boundaries, submitted the Report of that committee, which was read, and a motion of S. P. Whitten to lay it on the table and make it the order of the day for Monday next at 10 o'clock, and another by B. H. Spencer to recommend the Report, did not prevail. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES.

The Committee on Boundaries of Annual Conferences, having maturely considered the various papers referred to them, as well as the subject in general, committed to their charge, beg leave to make the following report:

We recommend to the General Conference the formation of a new Conference, chiefly within the boundaries of the Memphis Conference, to be called the "North Mississippi Conference"; of one within the Arkansas Conference, to be called the "White River Conference"; of one within the Pacific Conference, to be called the "Los Angeles Conference"; and of another out of portions of the St. Louis and Missouri Conferences, to be called the "Kansas and Nebraska Conference."

In the readjustment of boundaries within the States of Alabama and Mississippi, which have been considered best by the committee, the names of the two Conferences in Alabama have been changed to "Alabama" and "North Alabama."

We report the following as a correct description of the boundaries of the several Conferences, including those divided since the last General Conference, by its authority, and those formed under the recommendation of this Report, if adopted:

Baltimore Conference shall embrace all that part of the State of Maryland which lies north and west of the Great Choptank River, and also the part of Caroline county, in said State, lying south and east of said river; Newcastle and Kent counties, in the State of Delaware; and so much of the States of Virginia and West Virginia as is included in the following boundary lines: Beginning at the mouth of the Potomac River; thence up said river to the county line between Stafford and King George counties; thence with said line to the Rappahannock River, and with said river (but including Fredericksburg Station, on its southern bank) to the Blue Ridge Mountains; thence by that chain of mountains to Pilot Mountain, in Floyd county, Va.; thence to New River, and by that river westward to the line of Greenbrier county, West Va., so as to include all the pastoral charges in that locality embraced in the Lewisburg District; thence with the line between Pocahontas and Randolph counties, to the Alleghany Mountains; thence by said mountains northward, so as to include all the territory which may be now or hereafter under our jurisdiction, and not embraced in other Conferences.

Virginia Conference shall be bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, embracing the Eastern Shore of Virginia, and all the portions of the States of Delaware and Maryland not included in the Baltimore

Conference; on the north by the Potomac River, from its mouth to the line of Stafford and King George counties; by said line from that point to the Rappahannock, and by the Rappahannock River (excluding Fredericksburg Station) to the Blue Ridge; on the west, by the Blue Ridge to the North Carolina State line; and on the south, by the said State line to its intersection by the Roanoke River (excluding Union Church, in Mecklenburg county, Va.); and by the Roanoke River and Albemarle Sound to the Atlantic Ocean.

Western Virginia Conference shall include all that part of West Virginia not embraced in the Baltimore and Holston Conferences, and that part of Kentucky included in the Guyandotte District.

Holston Conference shall include East Tennessee, and that part of Middle Tennessee now embraced in the Pikeville District; that part of the States of Virginia and West Virginia which is now embraced in the Rogersville, Abingdon, Jeffersonville, and Wytheville Districts, south of the line of the Baltimore Conference, and including Jacksonville Circuit; that part of the State of North Carolina which lies west of the Blue Ridge; a small part lying east of said ridge, and embraced in Catawba Circuit, and that part now in the Wytheville District; and so much of the State of Georgia as is included in the following boundary: Beginning on the State line of Tennessee, at the eastern part of Lookout Mountain; thence to the Alabama State line; thence north with said State line to Battle Creek, and with said creek and the Tennessee River to the State line of Tennessee; and thence to the beginning.

North Carolina Conference shall be bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean; on the north, by Albemarle Sound and Roanoke River to its intersection with the Virginia State line, and by said State line (but including Union Church, in Mecklenburg county, Va.) to the Blue Ridge; on the west, by the western boundary of Surry, Wilkes, Caldwell, Burke, McDowell, Rutherford, and Polk counties, to the South Carolina line; and, on the south, by the State line of South Carolina, to the ocean.

South Carolina Conference shall include all the State of South Carolina.

North Georgia Conference shall embrace all that part of the State of Georgia (except a small part heretofore described as in the Holston Conference) which lies north of the following line: Beginning at the Chattahooche River at Pine Mountain, and running along Pine Mountain to Flint River; thence down said river to the southern line of Upson county; thence along the southern line of Monroe county, to

Ocmulgee River; thence along the south lines of Jones, Baldwin, Hancock, Warren, and Richmond counties, to the Savannah River.

South Georgia Conference shall include all that part of the State of Georgia lying south of the southern line of the North Georgia Conference, and the town of Girard, in Alabama.

Florida Conference shall include all that part of the State of Florida not included in the Alabama Conference.

Alabama Conference shall include West Florida, (except Apalachicola,) and all of the State of Alabama (the town of Girard excepted) lying south of the following boundary line: Beginning at the southwest corner of Pickens county; thence with the southern lines of Pickens and Tuscaloosa counties, and a direct line on the same parallel of latitude, east to the Coosa River; thence down said river to the southern boundary of Coosa county; thence east by said county line, and through Tallapoosa county, to the southern boundary of Chambers county, and by said county line to the State line of Georgia.

North Alabama Conference shall embrace all of the State of Alabama lying north of the boundary line last described.

Louisiana Conference shall embrace that portion of the State of Louisiana not included in the Mississippi Conference.

Mississippi Conference shall embrace all that part of the State of Mississippi lying south of the southern boundaries of Washington, Holmes, Attala, Winston, and Noxubee counties, together with so much of the State of Louisiana as lies north of Bayou Manshack, Amite River, and Lakes Marepas, Ponchartrain, and Bourne, except Baton Rouge.

North Mississippi Conference shall include all of the State of Mississippi not included in the Mississippi Conference.

Memphis Conference shall be bounded by the Mississippi, Ohio, and Tennessee Rivers, and by the State line between Tennessee and Mississippi.

Tennessee Conference shall include Middle Tennessee, except that portion of the Pikeville District in the Holston Conference.

Kentucky Conference shall embrace all that portion of the State of Kentucky (not included in the Western Virginia Conference) lying north and east of the following line: Beginning at the mouth of Harrod's Creek, on the Ohio River; thence running south, on the northern line of the Middletown and Jeffersontown Circuits, to the Bardstown turnpike road; thence with said turnpike to Bardstown; thence with the direct road to Springfield; thence to the towns of Haysville and Liberty; thence due south to the Cumberland River; thence up said river to the

fork; thence up the South Fork to the Tennessee State line, including Liberty.

Louisville Conference shall embrace all that part of the State of Kentucky not included in the Memphis, Kentucky, and Western Virginia Conferences.

St. Louis Conference shall embrace all that part of the State of Missouri lying south of the Missouri River.

Missouri Conference shall include all of the State of Missouri north of the Missouri River.

Kansas and Nebraska Conference shall include the States of Kansas, Nebraska, and Colorado, and the Territories of Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho, and any other territory east of the Rocky Mountains and west of the Missouri State line not included in other Conferences.

Indian Mission Conference shall be bounded north by the State of Kansas, east by Missouri and Arkansas, south by Red River, and West by the Rocky Mountains.

Arkansas Conference shall include that part of the State of Arkansas inclosed by the following boundary line: Beginning at the point where the North Fork of White River crosses the Missouri State line; thence down North Fork to its mouth; thence down White River to the point of White River Mountains; thence with said mountains to Miller's Ferry, on Little Red River; thence south with the range of mountains to the head of Palarm Creek; thence down said creek to Arkansas River; thence up said river to the mouth of the Petit Jean; thence along the line between Yell and Perry counties to the south-west corner of Perry; thence in a direct line to the south-west corner of Yell county; thence due west to the western line of the State; and thence with the State line to the beginning.

White River Conference shall be bounded on the east by the Mississippi River; on the north by the Missouri State line; on the west by the Arkansas Conference; on the south by a line running from the head of Palarm Creek to the head of Cypress Bayou; thence down said bayou to Des Arc Bayou; thence down that bayou to White River, and down said river to its mouth.

Little Rock Conference shall embrace all that portion of the State of Arkansas not included in the Arkansas and the White River Conferences.

Trinity Conference shall be bounded on the north by Red River; on the east by the western State lines of Arkansas and Louisiana; on the south by a line commencing at the Louisiana State line in Caddo Lake; thence up said lake to the mouth of Little Cypress River; up said

river to Taylor's bridge; thence in a direct line to Fort Crawford; thence in a direct line to Fredonia, on Sabine River; thence following said river to Belzora; thence by a direct line to the south-east corner of Van Zant county, including the Canton and Garden Valley Circuits; thence along the southern boundaries of Van Zant and Kaufman counties to Trinity River; and on the west by Trinity River and West Fork to its source, and by a direct line from that source to Red River.

East Texas Conference shall be bounded on the north by the southern boundary of Trinity Conference above described; on the east by the Louisiana State line from its junction with the Trinity southern boundary aforesaid, in Caddo Lake, to the Gulf of Mexico; on the south and west by the Gulf of Mexico to the East Pass of Galveston Bay, and thence by said bay and the Trinity River to the south-west corner of Kaufman county.

Texas Conference shall be bounded on the east by Trinity River from the south-east corner of Leon county to the coast; on the south by the Gulf of Mexico to Trespacios Bay; on the west by the Trespacios River and the east line of Jackson, Lavacca, Gonzales, Caldwell, and Hays counties; and on the north by the Perdenales River, and a direct line from its mouth to the north-west corner of Travis county, and the south lines of Williamson, Milam, Robertson, and Leon counties to Trinity River.

North-west Texas Conference shall be bounded on the north by the State line; on the east by Trinity and East Texas Conferences; south by Texas Conference and a line running due west from the north-west corner of Texas Conference to the road from San Antonio to Fort Mason; and on the west by said road to Fort Mason, and a line running due north from Fort Mason to the Colorado River; thence up said river to the Big Spring; thence due north to the State line.

West Texas Conference shall include all that part of the State of Texas lying west of the Texas and North-west Texas Conferences.

Los Angeles Conference shall include all the territory in the State of California and adjoining regions, between the Pacific Ocean and the Rocky Mountains, lying south of the following line, (and not included in other Conferences,) viz.: Beginning at a point on the shore of the Pacific Ocean, on the line between San Luis Obispo and Monterey counties; thence, and on that line, to the Coast Range Mountains on the line between San Luis Obispo and Kern counties to Tizon Pass; thence in a north-easterly direction along the line of the Sierra Nevada Mountains to the parallel of 36° north latitude, and eastward on that parallel.

Pacific Conference shall embrace all the State of California not included in the Columbia and Los Angeles Conferences.

Columbia Conference shall embrace the State of Oregon, Washington Territory, and so much of the State of California as lies north of Scott's Mountains.

Illinois Conference shall embrace the State of Illinois.

In conclusion, your committee would recommend that permission be granted to the St. Louis and Illinois Conferences to divide their respective territories, if it shall be thought desirable by them, within the next four years; to the Kentucky Conference, to extend its boundary northward, if it shall be deemed best—provided, that this do not interfere with the boundaries of Conferences already formed; and to the Louisiana and Mississippi Conferences, so to change their present boundary, at any time within the next four years, as to include in the Louisiana Conference all of the State of Louisiana.

Your committee recommend non-concurrence with all memorials, and other papers referred to them, which are inconsistent with the foregoing boundaries and recommendations. R. ALEXANDER, Chairman.

The Report was then acted upon, item by item.

The boundaries of the Baltimore Conference were adopted.

A motion of S. P. Whitten to reconsider the vote on this item did not prevail.

The items referring to the boundaries of the Virginia and Western Virginia Conferences were then adopted.

The item referring to the boundaries of the Holston Conference was read, and A. M. Shipp moved the recommitment of the items referring to the boundaries of the Holston, North Carolina, and South Carolina Conferences, which, on motion of J. M. McTeer, was laid on the table.

A. M. Shipp and H. A. C. Walker offered an amendment, which was sustained by the movers and W. Smith, and opposed by J. M. McTeer, N. F. Reid, and W. H. Bobbitt, and, on motion of A. H. Mitchell, was laid on the table. It is as follows:

Resolved, That a new Conference be established to be called Western Carolina Conference, embracing the territory within North Carolina now held by Holston Conference; the territory within North Carolina now held by South Carolina Conference, and bounded on the east by the Pedee or Yadkin River, beginning south at the South Carolina line; running thence north with said river to the county line of Davidson county; thence east with said county to the North Carolina Railroad; thence with said railroad to Greensboro, N. C., leaving said place, and all other places on the railroad, in the new Conference; thence with

the Piedmont Railroad to the Virginia line—leaving all towns on said road in the West Carolina Conference.

A. M. SHIPP,

H. A. C. WALKER.

The item referring to the boundaries of the Holston Conference was then adopted.

On motion of T. Reed, it was ordered that when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

The item referring to the boundaries of the North Carolina Conference was taken up, and the following amendment, on motion of N. F. Reid, was laid on the table, to wit:

Resolved, That the boundary between the North Carolina and the South Carolina Conferences remain as heretofore.

A. M. SHIPP,

W. SMITH.

Leave of absence was granted to John M. Swinford for the remainder of the session.

The Committee to Arrange the Programme for the Sunday-school Convention, ordered on Wednesday, May 18, was announced, as follows: T. J. Magruder, John Mathews, W. H. Foster, W. M. Leftwich, A. Snyder.

Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Thursday Afternoon, May 19, 1870.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Paine in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by W. G. E. Cunyningham.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Pierce took the chair.

D. Sullins, clerical delegate from the Holston Conference, on account of family affliction, and T. P. Thomas, of the same Conference, on account of personal affliction, asked and obtained leave of absence.

The Report on Boundaries, on which Conference adjourned this morning, was then taken up.

The items referring to the boundaries of the North Carolina, South Carolina, North Georgia, South Georgia, and Florida Conferences, were adopted.

The item referring to the boundaries of the Alabama Conference was read: its adoption was opposed by J. Hamilton and J. E. Groce, and advocated by W. B. Wood, O. R. Blue, and M. S. Andrews.

A motion of M. S. Andrews to amend by putting Oak Bowery Circuit into the Alabama Conference, and a substitute offered by J. P. Ralls proposing to leave the names and boundaries of the Mobile and

Montgomery Conferences as they now are, did not prevail. The item was adopted.

The item referring to the boundaries of the North Alabama Conference was adopted.

S. P. Whitten moved the adoption of the following proviso:

"*Provided*, The foregoing change in the boundaries of the Tennessee Conference shall not take effect unless it shall be approved by the said Conference at its next session."

On motion of A. H. Mitchell, this was laid on the table.

The items referring to the boundaries of the Louisiana, Mississippi, and North Mississippi Conferences, were adopted.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the Mississippi and North Mississippi Conferences be, and are hereby, authorized, if deemed expedient by those Conferences respectively in the next four years, to so change the boundaries of said Conferences as to make *three* Conferences out of the territory now included in these two.

R. ABBEY,

C. K. MARSHALL.

The items referring to the boundaries of the Memphis, Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisville, St. Louis, and Missouri Conferences, were adopted.

On motion of A. Monroe and C. I. Vandeventer,

Resolved, That the Missouri Conference have liberty to divide on the line of the Main Chariton River, if it find it necessary to do so, before the next session of the General Conference.

The item referring to the boundaries of the Kansas and Nebraska Conferences was adopted—a motion of T. M. Finney to change the name to The Western Conference did not prevail. *Y p 346.*

The items referring to the Indian Mission, Arkansas, White River, Little Rock, Trinity, East Texas, and Texas Conferences, were adopted.

The following resolution was offered, read, and, on motion of R. Alexander, was laid on the table:

Resolved, That the Report of the Committee on Boundaries be so amended as to make the Colorado River the south-western boundary of the Texas Conference, including also that part of the shore of Matagorda Bay extending from the mouth of said river to Pass Caballe.

O. A. FISHER,

D. A. T. WOODS,

WM. HEADEN.

The items referring to the boundaries of North-west Texas, West Texas, Los Angeles, Pacific, Columbia, and Illinois Conferences, were adopted.

The following resolution was offered, read, and adopted :

Resolved, That the North Carolina Conference is hereby authorized to form a Western North Carolina Conference *ad interim*, if in their judgment the interest of the Church requires it in the next four years—the presiding Bishop concurring.

F. M. KENNEDY,

N. F. REID.

A motion of J. P. Ralls to reconsider this vote did not prevail.

W. Smith, I. P. Garvin, and J. W. Harris, asked and obtained leave of absence.

On motion of J. B. McFerrin, Conference adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Friday Morning, May 20, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Pierce in the chair. Religious exercises were conducted by W. M. Pitts.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Kavanaugh took the chair, and called for Reports of Standing Committees.

J. Hamilton, chairman of Committee on Revisal, submitted Report No. 8 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rule. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, NO. 8.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to offer Report No. 8:

Your committee recommend that Chap. III., Sec. 8, Ques. 1, Ans. 2, page 13, new arrangement, be amended by striking out the word “and” after “ministry,” and inserting the following: “And those who were elders in the local relation at the time of their admission on trial in the Conference, shall pass the like examination.” “In no case,” etc.

The attention of the committee has been called to an apparent discrepancy between the Discipline, Chap. III., Sec. 16, Ques. 2, Ans. 2, page 19, new arrangement, and the Manual of the Discipline, page 49, Sec. 3, Item 2, in regard to the chairmanship of Boards of Trustees: if such discrepancy exists, it is the judgment of the committee that the Discipline is right.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. HAMILTON, Chairman.

C. I. Vandeventer, chairman of Committee on the Circulation of the Holy Scriptures, submitted the Report of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE CIRCULATION OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES.

Your committee, to whom was referred the subject of the Circulation of the Holy Scriptures, beg leave to report as follows:

We have no official papers of any kind referred to the committee, but have received through the Rev. S. P. Whitten, a member of this General Conference, and an Agent for the Society, the Christian congratulations of the Secretary of the American Bible Society; with assurances upon the part of the officers and managers of the same, of their earnest desire for the continued and hearty coöperation of the Southern Methodist Church in the great interests of the Bible work. And in this connection we would also state that Mr. W. H. Thomas, Agent for the Memphis and Shelby County Bible Society, and the Rev. Andrew Hunter, Agent for the American Bible Society in the State of Arkansas, and also the Rev. E. H. Pearce, Agent for Western Kentucky, have personally and freely communicated with the committee; and, through these brethren, we are assured that large and generous appropriations have been made by the Parent Society within the past four years to districts of country which we represent. The Rev. Mr. Pearce gave us gratifying information in regard to a new method of furnishing our chief thoroughfares of travel—both railroads and steamboats—with the Holy Scriptures—a plan already in successful operation on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. This plan has received the sanction of the Parent Society, and is soon, as far as practicable, to be put into operation throughout the country.

With these preliminaries, we may be allowed to assume that never within the history of this country was there a period when the subject of this report was of greater importance than at the present.

The Bible—the inspired book of God—reveals the science of human redemption—the way from earth to heaven: “faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” It prepares the way of the Lord; is ordinarily the harbinger of the advent of the Spirit. In every age, the general circulation of the Scriptures, and the careful study of the same, have resulted in a revival of pure religion. It was eminently so in the days of Josiah, when, amidst the rubbish of the temple, a copy of the neglected law was found and read to the people; it was so under the administration of Ezra; it was so in the beginning of the Christian era, and under the practical admonition of the Master, who said, “Search the Scriptures”; it was so in the days of the Reformation, when the long-concealed and fettered word of divine revelation shone into the darkened mind of the Church, and, attended by the resurrection-power of the Holy Spirit, breathed new life into the body

of Christ. It is *still* so. Do you desire a religious revival that will bring sinners to the knowledge of salvation, and one whose influence for good will last forever? Circulate the Holy Scriptures, and induce men to read and study them. Do you desire to build up the Church, which Jesus bought with his own precious blood, on the most holy faith? Then walk by the same rule and mind the same things. But the Bible has always been, in one way or another, opposed openly, or secretly assailed. The carnal mind, which is "enmity against God," is not—*cannot* be—reconciled to the truth; and "men love darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil." Ignorance, and priestcraft, and tyranny, cannot live and flourish in the sunlight of God's pure word; and therefore the enemies of truth and righteousness would destroy or explain away the doctrines and influence of this holy book. Opposition to the Bible has assumed different forms in different periods of the Church's history. One of the saddest and most ominous developments of the times is a manifest tendency and purpose, in some places, to exclude the Bible from the public schools of the land. While, of course, we do not expect or desire the inculcation of denominational tenets in these schools, and while the Bible may have been but little read and studied in some of them, and read to but little profit in others, yet, to refuse the word of the Creator, and Redeemer, and Judge of men a place in those schools, seems to us much in the light of a repudiation of this holy book—an evil and an iniquity from the guilt of which we desire our skirts to be clear, and to which we do most solemnly protest. "But the word of the Lord endureth forever." No weapon that is formed against it shall ultimately prevail, though it may be in the future, as it has been in the past, greatly obscured and embarrassed by the negligence or folly of its avowed friends.

Facts known to your committee, and we presume well known to the members of this General Conference, assure us of an extensive destitution, of the Holy Scriptures in many, and, indeed, most parts of our wide-spread country. And we cannot be too much impressed with the importance of making yet farther inquiries into the all-important subject, and of stirring up ourselves and our people to increased liberality in furnishing the necessary means to aid in supplying the word of life to every man, woman, and child in the land. Said a dying man, not long since—one who had bequeathed a large part of an extensive and valuable estate to send the word of God to the destitute—"Would that I had means to furnish every human being with a copy of the Bible!" A wish, this, worthy of a good man, and one that ought to move the heart of the Church of God. Here is one platform on which we all

can stand; one cause in which we can all unite; one great interest which we can combine to promote. And doing so with the right spirit, with right motives, and in dependence upon the blessing of the Head of the Church, the gates of hell shall not prevail against us.

In conclusion, your committee desire to offer for adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That it is the duty of the Church of God to supply the world with the Holy Scriptures.

2. That we recognize in the American Bible Society the most efficient instrumentality in the dissemination of God's word throughout the States and Territories of this broad land.

3. That we continue heartily to coöperate with the accredited agents of this Society in circulating the Holy Scriptures "without note or comment."

4. That we recommend more systematic and diligent efforts to ascertain the extent of Bible destitution among us, and also increased liberality in providing the necessary means to supply the same.

5. That the Bishops be, and they are hereby, requested, when in their judgment it is practicable, to appoint to Bible Agencies such men as the American Bible Society may elect.

C. I. VANDEVENTER, Chairman.

N. F. Reid, chairman of the Special Committee to whom was referred the communication of the Rev. J. K. Nichols, D.D., Fraternal Messenger of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, submitted the Report of that committee, which was read and adopted, and the committee was instructed to communicate the same to Dr. Nichols.

The communication made to the Conference by Dr. Nichols is as follows:

BALTIMORE, May 12, 1870.

At the session of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, sitting at this time in Baltimore, Md., Rev. James K. Nichols, D.D., was appointed a Fraternal Messenger to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to fill the vacancy created by the withdrawal of Rev. F. L. B. Shaver, the original appointee from the Methodist Protestant Church.

J. THOS. MURRAY, Sec.

CONFERENCE ROOM, BALTIMORE, MD., }
May 14, 1870. }

To the Bishops and Representatives—ministerial and lay—of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Conference assembled, in the city of Memphis, Tenn., greeting:

REVEREND AND HONORED BRETHREN:—The inclosed certificate

will explain the occasion and character of this communication to your respected and venerable body. Honored by my brethren with the position and responsibility of Fraternal Messenger, I would lose no time in conveying to you the fraternal greetings and Christian salutations of those whom I represent. Not being able to do this in person, by reason of the simultaneous sitting of the two bodies, and the great distance separating them, I substitute this letter in the premises.

In the name, therefore, of our great Father in heaven, and of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in the name of our common Methodism, and, especially, in the name of the Methodist Protestant Church, dear brethren, I greet you with a glad heart. I greet you as ministers of Christ and members of his Church, and bid you God-speed in the great work of spreading scriptural holiness over these lands and throughout the world. This is the chosen work of our cherished Methodism, and it affords me unspeakable pleasure to assure you that the Methodist Protestant Church, as one of the feebler branches of that great ecclesiastical brotherhood, rejoices to bear her humble part in its glorious consummation. We claim to be disciples of that blessed Lord whose kingdom is not of this world. And in the fulfillment of our high commission as a Church, therefore, like yourselves, we have "determined to know nothing among men save Jesus Christ and him crucified." A people emphatically of one work, and that work the salvation of immortal souls, the height of our ambition is to spend and be spent for its blessed accomplishment.

It is with great pleasure that I would advert to that most pleasing sign in our ecclesiastical heavens, indicating an increasing desire among the evangelical Churches of our land—especially those of similar faith and fellowship—to get nearer to each other, in the true spirit of Christian sympathy and fraternity. Indeed, "union" is fast becoming the watchword of Christendom. What an example of this have we among our Calvinistic brethren, in the corporate union and consolidation of the Old and New School Presbyterian Churches! Shall Arminian Christians fail in this respect? It is most pleasing to me to be able to say, in this connection, that even since the commencement of this session of our General Conference, we have been approached by two distinct branches of the great Methodist family, in the persons of Fraternal Messengers, respectively, looking to and advocating a closer union of our common Methodism. But honor to whom honor is due. You yourselves, venerable brethren, are in advance of all of them on this subject. Four years ago, Fraternal Messengers were accredited from your venerable body, then sitting in New Orleans, to our own, holding

its quadrennial session, at the same time, in Georgetown, D. C. And it is yet fresh in the recollection of the writer, how our hearts were made to thrill by the eloquent utterances of one of your messengers—Rev. C. F. Deems, D.D., the only one who reached us—upon the great subject of Christian fraternity and union. Moreover, from your body, at the same time and place, emanated that distinguished Commission which, in the persons of Bishops Pierce and McTyeire, and Drs. Lee and Evans, appeared before the General Convention of the Methodist Protestant Church, which met three years ago, in the city of Montgomery, Ala., to treat upon the subject of a corporate union of the two Churches. And I need not say how highly we appreciated such a presence upon such a subject. Your Commission won the hearts of the whole Convention. And although the great object of their appointment has not been accomplished, I am sure the blessed results of that meeting, like bread cast on the waters, shall be gathered after many days. Let us hope, dear and honored brethren, that the time may speedily come when all who love our Lord Jesus Christ may see eye to eye, and, in the truest and divinest sense, be one in him.

Praying the great Head of the Church to bless you in your deliberations, and to multiply and make you a thousand times so many as you are, with great respect and affection, I am your brother and fellow-laborer in the gospel of Christ,

J. K. NICHOLS.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE FOREGOING.

The committee to whom was referred the communication of the Rev. J. K. Nichols, D.D., Fraternal Messenger of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church to the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South, now in session, ask leave to submit the following reply as their Report:

GENERAL CONFERENCE ROOM, MEMPHIS, TENN., }
May 19, 1870. }

J. K. NICHOLS, D.D.—*Reverend and Dear Brother*:—Your communication, with the testimonial of your appointment as Fraternal Messenger from the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, now in session in the city of Memphis, was duly received, and referred to us, the undersigned, for consideration and response.

In the discharge of this pleasant duty, we assure you that the sentiments of fraternal regard expressed by you, both in your own name and in behalf of the body of venerable Christian ministers and laymen whom you represent, meet with an earnest and hearty response from

us. You will allow us to say that, in common with yourself, we realize the highest satisfaction in the evidence which we witness of a nearer approach of the "evangelical Churches of the land" to each other in Christian fellowship and good-will; and we trust that the advances made in that direction may be the harbinger of that perfect fellowship and affection which should characterize those who, differing in non-essentials, are nevertheless agreed on the essential points of doctrine of our holy religion. You will permit us especially to express the reciprocal pleasure it affords us to believe that the recent efforts made by the authorities of our respective Churches to effect an organic union between these two members of the great Methodist family of this country, have not been entirely fruitless, and we hope the day may not be far distant when this bread cast on the waters may be gathered in a complete organic unity of these two branches of Christ's Church, on a basis alike agreeable to both parties, already one in sympathy and doctrine, and nearly so in polity. Before this reaches you, your General Conference will have adjourned; but you will please make known this expression from us to your brethren, by adopting such measure as may suggest itself as most suitable to bring it to their knowledge.

With our fervent prayers to God for his blessing upon you and those you represent, we are affectionately yours in Christ,

N. F. REID,
J. C. GRANBERY,
O. R. BLUE,
L. W. SMITH,
E. W. MASSEY.

E. E. Wiley, chairman of Committee on the Publishing House, submitted the Report of said committee, which was read, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF NINE ON THE PUBLISHING HOUSE.

Your committee have considered as carefully and thoroughly as circumstances would allow, the great interests connected with our Publishing House, as brought before them in the resolution of E. H. Myers and W. J. Parks, as to the expediency of selling out at Nashville, and publishing hereafter by contract on the agency plan. Also, the resolution of I. G. John and J. W. Whipple, asking for inquiry as to the comparative cost of publishing at Nashville and at other commercial centers in the United States, as well as the cost of transportation from that and from other points, together with the present price of real estate, etc., at Nashville, and reached the following conclusions as their best judgment in the premises:

1. That we should continue to manufacture and publish our books as heretofore.

2. That the best interests of the Church require that the Publishing House be continued at Nashville. E. E. WILEY, Chairman.

On motion of Thos. E. Bond, the first resolution was adopted.

R. S. Moran moved as an amendment to the second resolution, that the Publishing House be removed to Baltimore.

After an extended discussion by the mover, Thos. E. Bond, J. E. Evans, C. K. Marshall, A. W. Wilson—the time being extended to allow him to finish his speech—E. W. Schon, A. H. Redford, R. J. Morgan, W. P. Harrison, P. A. Peterson, A. L. P. Green—the time being extended to allow him to finish his speech—and T. M. Finney—the time being extended in his case also—Jas. A. Dawson and H. A. C. Walker offered the following substitute for the amendment and the resolution :

Resolved, That the proposition of the memorialists from the city of Louisville, offering to donate to the Publishing House the sum of fifty thousand dollars, upon condition that the same be located in that city, be, and the same is hereby, accepted ; and the Book Agent is directed, at the earliest practicable period, to remove such of the property of the House as can be advantageously removed to the city of Louisville, and to dispose of the immovable property on the best attainable terms ; and hereafter the Publishing House shall be located in the city of Louisville ; *provided*, that the action above contemplated shall be contingent upon the payment to the Agent by the memorialists aforesaid, or upon such guaranty as will secure the payment, of said sum of fifty thousand dollars.

JAS. A. DAWSON,

H. A. C. WALKER.

The delegation of the Indian Mission Conference and W. L. J. Wilkes, lay delegate from the Tennessee Conference, were granted leave of absence.

J. D. Giddings moved the previous question. The time of adjournment being near, J. Hamilton moved to extend the session to take the vote on the previous question. This motion did not prevail, and Conference adjourned, on motion of B. H. Spencer, to meet this afternoon at 3½ o'clock. The Bishop pronounced the benediction.

Friday Afternoon, May 20, 1870.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Kavanaugh in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by B. Craven.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Wightman took the chair.

The call for the previous question, on which Conference adjourned this morning, was not sustained.

R. S. Moran was allowed to withdraw his amendment.

The substitute of Jas. A. Dawson and H. A. C. Walker was then advocated by David Morton—the fifteen-minutes' rule being suspended to allow him to finish his speech. He was followed on the same side by N. H. Lee. J. B. McFerrin spoke in opposition to the substitute, and the rule was suspended to allow him to finish his speech.

A. R. Winfield called for the previous question: the call was sustained, and the substitute was lost by a vote of 63 to 119.

The second resolution was then adopted.

The question was then put on the Report, as a whole, which was adopted. (See page 293.)

The Report of Committee on Boundaries was then taken up and adopted. (See page 289.)

A. L. P. Green and W. C. Johnson presented claims of certain parties against the old Missionary Society, which were referred to Committee on Missions.

The following resolutions were then offered, read, and adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That in pursuance of the action of this General Conference on the 12th inst., in relation thereto, the Conference does by these presents appoint the Rev. Alexander L. P. Green, of Tennessee, and Isaac L. Johnson, Esq., of Washington, D. C., a Commission on behalf of the Book Agent of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, with full power and authority to employ counsel to present, prosecute, and receive the debt due the aforesaid corporation by the Government of the United States for rents, damages, printing material, and other property pressed into the service of the United States during the years 1862 to 1865 inclusive; and the said Commissioners are hereby invested with full power to do all matters and things pertaining to said claim; and they are hereby required to pay over all moneys arising therefrom, after paying all needful expenses, to the General Book Agent.

R. ABBEY,

J. HAMILTON.

Whereas, the doctrines of our Church are not to be found in any one small, convenient work; therefore,

Resolved, That the Bishops be requested to select some suitable per-

son to prepare, under their supervision, a manual of the doctrines of the Church, in a brief, clear, and guarded form, for general circulation.

J. HAMILTON,
J. E. EVANS,
J. B. McFERRIN.

The following resolutions were submitted, read, and discussed at some length:

1. *Resolved*, That while, in accordance with the Minority Report of Committee on Episcopacy, this Conference prefers that there should be a Biblical Department in each of the colleges of the Church, and that it is highly advantageous that her theological students should be distributed among these several institutions;

2. Nevertheless, that our Bishops be authorized to employ any funds that may be placed at their disposal, by testamentary gift or otherwise, for the education of young men in the ministry in any form that, in their godly judgment, may seem best suited to accomplish the will of the donor and the welfare of the Church.

J. C. KEENER,
B. CRAVEN,
C. K. MARSHALL,
A. R. WINFIELD,
LUTHER M. SMITH.

Pending this discussion, the Conference adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Saturday Morning, May 21, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Wightman in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by Alfred T. Mann.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Marvin took the chair, and called for Reports of Standing Committees.

J. Boring, chairman of Committee on Missions, submitted Reports Nos. 4, 5, 6, and 7, of that committee, which were read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 4.

The propriety of establishing a Mission in Mexico, the consideration of which was referred to this committee, has been as fully examined as possible, under the circumstances, and it is recommended that whenever practicable a Mission shall be organized for the Mexicans in either Western Texas or Mexico, as may be determined best.

Respectfully submitted.

J. BORING, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 5.

Resolved, That the Board of Missions be requested at an early day to inquire into the expediency of employing a Missionary Agent among the Chinese in California.

J. BORING, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 6.

Resolved, That the attention of the General Conference be called to the fact that Missions are frequently established in our old Conferences on territory which *is not strictly* missionary ground, and that *real* missionary interests are seriously damaged thereby.

Respectfully submitted.

J. BORING, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 7.

The Committee on Missions recommend that the Columbia Conference be made a Missionary Conference.

J. BORING, Chairman.

J. Boring presented a memorial from members of the Church in the North Georgia Conference, respecting the trial and expulsion of Dr. W. R. Bell, which, together with the Journal of that Conference, was referred to Committee on Itinerancy.

J. J. Dement, lay delegate from the Tennessee Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence.

The following resolution was then offered and read, to wit:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this General Conference that the Episcopacy should be strengthened by the election of at least two Bishops.

H. H. MONTGOMERY,

L. P. LIVELY,

R. ABBEY.

On motion of A. H. Mitchell, the order of the day was suspended to allow action on this subject.

A. Monroe offered as a substitute,

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Conference that it is inexpedient at this time to increase the number of Bishops.

This was lost by a vote of 67 to 104.

J. Hamilton moved to amend the resolution by striking out two and inserting one.

J. E. Edwards moved to amend the amendment by inserting five. This motion was laid on the table.

After considerable discussion, J. P. Ralls moved the previous question—the call was sustained—the amendment was carried by a vote of 110 to 102, and the resolution thus amended was adopted.

M. S. Andrews moved that we now proceed to elect a Bishop.

W. C. Johnson moved, as a substitute, that the election of a Bishop be made the order of the day for Monday next at 3½ o'clock. This was lost.

The previous question was called by H. A. C. Walker; the call was sustained, and the original motion prevailed.

At the instance of E. H. Myers, the Chair called the Conference to prayer, led by the venerable Lovick Pierce.

W. H. Potter, D. Ball, P. A. Peterson, and J. W. Whipple, were appointed tellers.

The result of the ballot is as follows:

John C. Keener received 55 votes; James A. Duncan, 51; John B. McFerrin, 17; N. F. Reid, 5; A. L. P. Green, 4; John H. Linn, 4; E. E. Wiley, 4; F. A. Morris, 4; W. P. Harrison, 4; John S. Martin, 3; E. H. Myers, 3; Andrew Hunter, 3; D. R. McAnally, 3; Jesse Boring, 2; S. Regester, 2; J. E. Evans, 2; T. O. Summers, 2; S. S. Roszel, 2; C. F. Deems, 2; J. C. Granbery, 2; E. W. Schon, W. V. Tudor, O. R. Blue, W. H. Anderson, J. S. Key, F. A. Mood, O. Fisher, T. M. Finney, and W. H. Potter, 1 each.

The whole number of ballots was 183—necessary to a choice, 92—no election.

The second ballot resulted as follows:

John C. Keener received 87 votes; James A. Duncan, 84; J. B. McFerrin, 5; J. S. Martin, 2; E. W. Schon, 2; C. F. Deems, W. V. Tudor, S. Regester, O. R. Blue, A. Hunter, N. F. Reid, and W. P. Harrison, 1 each.

The whole number of ballots was 187—necessary to a choice, 94—no election.

The hour of adjournment being near, the time was extended.

The third balloting resulted as follows:

John C. Keener received 96 votes; James A. Duncan, 84; John S. Martin, 2; John B. McFerrin and J. A. Hunter, 1 each.

The whole number of ballots was 184—necessary to a choice, 93.

John Christian Keener, having received a majority, was declared duly elected a Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

On motion of N. A. Cravens, the vote by which adjournment *sine die* was fixed for Monday, May 23, was reconsidered; and, on motion of L. M. Lee, the resolution fixing the day of adjournment was laid on the table.

W. B. Wood, lay delegate from the Tennessee Conference; W. M. Leathers, lay delegate from the Kentucky Conference; W. E. Cocke

and W. T. Rucker, lay delegates from the Pacific Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence.

Bishop Paine announced that the Bishop elect would be ordained on Sunday morning, May 22, in the Second Street Methodist Church, after a sermon by Lovick Pierce.

Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

ORDINATION

OF

BISHOP KEENER.

The Ordination of JOHN CHRISTIAN KEENER, as a Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, took place in the Second Street Methodist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, on Sunday morning, May 22, 1870.

The Ordination Sermon was preached by the venerable Lovick Pierce, on 2 Tim. iv. 1-5. The Collect was read by Bishop Andrew, the Epistle by Bishop Pierce, and the Gospel by Bishop Kavanaugh.

The Bishop elect was presented by J. Hamilton and N. A. Cravens.

The address to the congregation was read by Bishop Wightman; the prayer succeeding by Bishop Marvin; the examination of the Bishop elect was conducted by Bishop Paine; the *Veni Creator* and accompanying prayer by Bishop Doggett.

Bishop Paine proceeded with the service—all the Bishops present, with J. Hamilton, N. A. Cravens, and O. Fisher, united in the laying on of hands. The prayers following the presentation of the Bible were read by Bishop McTyeire, and, after the doxology, the benediction was pronounced by Bishop Paine.

Monday Morning, May 23, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Marvin in the chair. Divine service was conducted by J. E. Evans.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Doggett took the chair, and called on the Conference to address itself directly to the dispatch of business.

A motion of T. J. Magruder to suspend the order of business, to take up Report No. 1 of Committee on Sunday-schools, did not prevail.

Willis B. Machen, lay delegate from the Louisville Conference, appeared and took his seat.

W. H. Anderson, Reserve clerical delegate from the Louisville Conference, appeared and took his seat, *vice* N. H. Lee, who was called home by family affliction.

J. E. Edwards, chairman of Committee on Itinerancy, submitted Report No. 6 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 6.

The committee has examined the petition signed by ten members of the Homer Circuit Quarterly Conference, asking for the *reversal* of an order made by the North Georgia Conference, at its session of 1869, by which the Conference, on the petition of W. R. Bell, (a local deacon who had been expelled from the Church,) had returned the case to the Homer Circuit Quarterly Conference, awarding a new trial to the aforesaid W. R. Bell. Without entering into the history of this case, as detailed in the petition, or recounting certain reasons that, in the judgment of the committee, might have decided the North Georgia Conference to refuse a new trial to the petitioner, (W. R. Bell,) the committee, nevertheless, in view of all the facts in the case, recommend *non-concurrence* in the petition of the ten members of the Homer Circuit Quarterly Conference.

JNO. E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

J. Boring, chairman of Committee on Missions, submitted Report No. 8 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 8.

The committee report that they have investigated the claims of the Rev. P. M. Pinckard, the Rev. S. Watson, and Messrs. Harvey, Keith & Co., upon the Board of Missions, and find that they consist of unpaid missionary drafts drawn before the late war, and certain advances made by the Rev. S. Watson during the war, to meet the necessities of Bishop Soule, which at the time could not have been otherwise provided for.

These claims are clearly just, and the committee recommend that they be presented to the Board of Missions to be audited and settled as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted.

JESSE BORING, Chairman.

Also, Report No. 9 of the same committee, which was read, and, on motion of P. A. Peterson, was laid on the table for the present, and ordered to be printed. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 9.

In compliance with a resolution signed by W. W. Bennett and A. R. Winfield, and referred to the Committee on Missions, "with instructions to report to this Conference the amount of money collected since the last General Conference for the two Missionary Boards, what amounts have been expended by each Board in the support of Missions, and what amounts have been expended by each Board in supporting the officers, and in conducting the operations of each Board," the following is respectfully submitted:

The amount of receipts and expenditures of the Domestic Board for the first year were not before us; but, by an interview with the Secretary, we learn that the amounts collected were sufficient to meet the salary of the Secretary and other small expenses incident to the Board, and that the accounts are on the Treasurer's books, at Nashville, not having been printed, but are ready for inspection at any moment; therefore, neither the receipts nor expenditures for the first year's operations are included in this Report.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Collections during second year..... | \$44,672 90 |
| Collections during third year..... | 47,959 60 |
| Collections during fourth year..... | 50,321 50 |

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Whole amount collected..... | \$142,954 00 |
| To which add special donations 1868 and 1869 | 375 89 |
| To which add special donations 1869 and 1870..... | 134 55 |

Whole amount from all sources.....\$143,464 44

During this period there was expended:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Salary Secretary three years..... | \$9,000 00 |
| Traveling expenses second year..... | 200 00 |
| Traveling expenses third and fourth years..... | 668 69 |
| Printing Reports, expense of Board, etc..... | 364 10 |
| Total expenses three years..... | \$10,232 79 |

It will be remembered that only ten per cent. of the collections made in the Annual Conferences is paid into the Parent Board, amounting

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| to | \$14,295 40 |
| Special donations 1868 and 1869..... | 375 89 |
| Special donations 1869 and 1870..... | 134 55 |
| Total..... | \$14,805 84 |

Of this amount, after paying the expenses of operating the Board, there remains—

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Cash in Treasury | \$ 2,127 52 |
| Paid Thomas Taylor | 500 00 |
| Paid Samuel Watson | 600 00 |

The balance, amounting to \$1,345 53, as reported by your Secretary, was paid for printing German Discipline, and in aid of several Annual Conferences needing assistance. Your Secretary, not anticipating the call for such a Report, did not bring his books from Nashville, and therefore could not give us all the items making up the above aggregate.

As to the operations of the Board of Foreign Missions, your committee find that Wm. T. Smithson, while Treasurer of the Board, from July 15, 1866, to November 12, 1869,

| | |
|---------------|-------------|
| Received..... | \$45,651 69 |
|---------------|-------------|

During this period there was expended :

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Salary of the Secretary..... | \$10,431 92 |
| Traveling expenses of Secretary..... | 1,001 00 |
| Stationery, Stamps, and Exchange..... | 45 43-\$11,478 35 |

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Leaving | \$34,173 34 |
| During same period there was paid on China Mission..... | \$8,646 36 |
| On Indian Missions..... | 7,063 65 |
| On Old Debt..... | 4,487 50 |
| To the Rev. M. L. Wood..... | 1,027 00 |
| To Dr. Cunningham..... | 320 00-\$21,544 51 |

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Leaving | \$12,628 83 |
| Paid since to T. J. Magruder, to May, 1870..... | 1,708 65 |

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Leaving still due by W. T. Smithson..... | \$10,920 18 |
| T. J. Magruder, from March 15, 1869, to February 28, 1870, received.. | 33,584 71 |

During this period the expenses of the Board have been as follows :

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Salary of Secretary | \$3,000 00 |
| House-rent and furniture | 1,282 42 |
| Salary Assistant Secretary..... | 334 96 |
| Stationery, Exchange, etc | 53 02 |
| Traveling expenses Secretary and Board..... | 1,378 71-\$ 6,047 71 |

Leaving..... \$27,537 00

During the same period the following amounts were paid:

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Amount paid China Mission..... | \$6,110 39 |
| Amount paid Indian Missions..... | 7,410 33 |
| Amount paid Old Debt | 11,376 18 |
| Balance in hands of Treasurer | 2,640 10-\$27,537 00 |

RECAPITULATION OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Total receipts by W. T. Smithson..... | \$45,651 69 |
| Total receipts by T. J. Magruder..... | 33,584 71 |

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Total receipts by both..... | \$79,236 40 |
| Paid by Smithson, supporting officers and conducting operations..... | \$11,478 35 |
| Paid by Magruder, operations..... | 6,047 71 |

Whole expense supporting Board.....\$17,526 06

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Whole amount paid by Smithson to missions, old debt, etc.. | 21,544 51 |
| Whole amount by Magruder to missions, old debt, etc..... | 24,896 90 |

Whole expense supporting missions.....\$46,441 41

Respectfully submitted.

J. BORING, Chairman.

W. M. Rush, chairman of Committee on Books and Periodicals, submitted Report No. 17 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rule. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 17.

The resolution of A. L. P. Green, Guilford Jones, and others, proposing the creation of the office of Book and Periodical Superintendent in every charge, has been considered, and the committee make the following Report in favor of the resolution, viz.:

To Chap. II., Sec. 3, Ans. to Ques. 1, new arrangement, after the words "together with," insert the words "Book and Periodical Superintendent, and"—thereby adding to the membership of the Quarterly Conference. To Chap. II., Sec. 3, Ques. 4, Ans. 1, after sub-question 6, add another question, to be numbered Question 7: "What is doing for the circulation of our books and periodicals?" The next and last

question to be numbered Question 8. To Chap. III., after Sec. 16, add the following :

“SEC. XVII.—OF BOOK AND PERIODICAL SUPERINTENDENTS.

“*Question 1.* How are the Book and Periodical Superintendents to be appointed?

“*Answer.* By the preacher in charge, as soon as practicable after entering upon his work—appointments to be made or renewed at the beginning of the year. There shall be one Book and Periodical Superintendent for every Society, or one for two or more Societies, or one in each charge, as may be deemed best by the preacher in charge, with whom they shall coöperate, and shall labor under his direction.

“*Ques. 2.* What other regulations are necessary in reference to the Book and Periodical Superintendent?

“*Ans.* He shall be diligent, under the direction of the preacher in charge, in promoting the general diffusion of our literature among our members and friends, and particularly in families and Sunday-schools. He shall, according to his own judgment, and as far as his own means will allow, or as far as he may be furnished with means by the Society, keep on hand a select stock of our publications, or shall order our books when requested, the means for purchase being furnished him. He shall use zealous efforts for extending the circulation of our periodicals, with the view of placing them in all our families and Sunday-schools. He shall report, in writing, to every Quarterly Conference, and at the last Quarterly Conference his Report shall embrace a summary of his operations during the year. His official transactions with the Publishing House, and with all our periodical offices, shall be on a cash basis, and so, also, as to sales, except in cases of special contract. The appointment of the Book and Periodical Superintendents shall not exonerate the preacher in charge from responsibility for the circulation of our books and periodicals.”

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

The Rev. R. J. Harp, Agent of the Depository at New Orleans, made a statement concerning said Depository.

W. P. Harrison, chairman of Special Committee on the Revision of the Ritual, submitted Reports Nos. 2, 3, and 4, of that committee, which were read, laid over under the rule, and ordered to be printed. They are as follows :

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF THE RITUAL, NO. 2.

The committee appointed to consider the subject of revising the Ritual of the Church, beg leave to submit Report No. 2 :

Your committee have had before them various propositions to amend the language of the offices of Infant and Adult Baptism, and respectfully submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the Exhortation in the office of Infant Baptism be so amended as to read as follows: "Dearly beloved, forasmuch as all men are conceived and born in sin, and that our Saviour Christ saith, 'Except a man be born again, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God,' I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous mercy he will grant to *this child* that which by nature *he* cannot have, that *he*, being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Ghost, and received into Christ's holy Church, and be made a living member of the same."

2. That the prayer immediately following the Exhortation be so amended as to read as follows: "Almighty and everlasting God, we beseech thee, for thine infinite mercies, that thou wilt look upon *this child*: pour out thy Holy Spirit upon *him*, and grant that *he*, being received into the ark of Christ's Church, and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, may so pass the waves of this troublesome world that finally he may come to the land of everlasting life, there to reign with thee, world without end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

3. That paragraphs 2, 3, 4, and 5, in the before-mentioned prayer, remain unchanged.

4. That paragraph 6 be so amended as to read as follows: "Almighty, ever-living God, whose most dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed his most precious blood, and gave commandment to his disciples that they should go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, grant, we beseech thee, our supplication, that *this child*, now to be baptized, may receive the fullness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and elect children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

5. That no farther emendation is necessary in the office of Infant Baptism.

W. P. HARRISON, Chairman.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF THE RITUAL, NO. 3.

The Special Committee on Revision of the Ritual beg leave to submit Report No. 3:

Your committee have carefully considered several propositions relating to the office of Adult Baptism, and recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the language of the exhortation be so amended as to conform it to the amended form in the office of Infant Baptism.

2. That the last paragraph, commencing on page 154, be amended by striking out the words, "did shed out of his most precious side both water and blood," and inserting, "did shed his most precious blood."

3. That the second prayer, page 149, be transferred to the Form of Receiving and Recognizing Members, and that all be omitted after the word "invocation," on page 155, as recommended by the Special Committee on Reàrrangement of the Discipline.

W. P. HARRISON, Chairman.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF THE RITUAL, NO. 4.

The Committee on Revision of the Ritual beg leave to submit Report No. 4:

Your committee have duly considered the papers signed by W. P. Harrison, C. W. Miller, A. G. Brown, H. A. C. Walker, and others, and having made all the recommendations they deem necessary, offer, in conclusion, the following resolution:

Resolved, That such emendations and recommendations of the Committee on Reàrrangement as do not conflict with action already taken, be, and hereby are, adopted.

W. P. HARRISON, Chairman.

On motion of T. J. Magruder, Reports Nos. 1 and 2 of Committee on Sunday-schools were taken up and read.

A motion of A. M. Shipp to amend the first resolution, by inserting between the words "adoption" and "by," the words "as far as practicable," was lost.

The resolution was opposed by the Secretary and E. W. Schon, and advocated by D. R. McAnally, L. Pierce, T. J. Magruder, John Mathews, Asa Snyder. It was adopted.

The second resolution was read, and a substitute offered by H. P. Walker and S. X. Hall, recommending a weekly Sunday-school paper, embracing Child's, Youth's, Teacher's, and Miscellaneous Departments, was laid on the table. The resolution was adopted.

The third resolution was adopted.

The fourth resolution was read, and an amendment moved by P. A. Peterson to strike out all after the word "issued" and insert "semi-monthly," was lost, and the resolution was adopted.

The fifth resolution was read and adopted.

The sixth resolution was read, and an amendment of R. Abbey, pro-

viding for the appointment of the Secretary by the Bishops, was lost, and the resolution was adopted.

The seventh and eighth resolutions were adopted.

The preamble was adopted, the committee, by unanimous vote, being allowed to withdraw this paragraph :

"After careful inquiry into the facts of the case—collated from a very wide field—your committee have come reluctantly to the conclusion that our child's paper ['The Sunday-school Visitor'] has not met the wants of our schools, nor competed successfully with its many and attractive rivals for their patronage."

The Report, as a whole, thus amended, was adopted. (See page 193.)

Report No. 2 of the same committee was adopted. (See page 216.)

W. M. Leftwich, chairman of Special Committee on a Sunday-school Hymn and Tune-book, submitted the Report of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows :

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOL HYMN AND TUNE-BOOK.

The special committee to whom was referred the subject of a Sunday-school Song-book, have given the same due consideration, and beg leave to report :

1. That the great object of Sunday-schools for our children will not be successfully reached so long as we depend upon others for song-books in our Sunday-schools.

2. The highest obligations to our Church and children require us to use to the best advantage every legitimate and available means of religious culture, and we consider the department of song at once a delightful and successful method of imparting and impressing religious truth.

3. We consider the subject of sufficient importance to justify the appointment, by this General Conference, of a committee of five suitable and competent persons, to aid the Sunday-school Secretary in collecting and providing, from time to time, suitable songs and song-books for our Sunday-schools ; and we so recommend.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. LEFTWICH, Chairman.

On motion of H. H. Montgomery, the election of a Sunday-school Secretary, and other General Conference officers, was made the order of the day for to-morrow at 10 o'clock A.M.

On motion of W. M. Rush, it was ordered that when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet this afternoon at 3½ o'clock—Report No. 10 of Committee on Books and Periodicals to be the order of the day.

Report No. 1 of Committee on Missions was called up, and, on motion of W. W. Bennett, was acted on, item by item.

A. W. Wilson submitted the following question to the Bishops for their decision :

"Is the provision, inserted in each missionary constitution by the General Conference of 1866, requiring a two-thirds vote of this body in order to effect an alteration of the same, valid and binding upon this body?"

Bishop Paine, after consultation with his colleagues, returned the following answer :

"It is the opinion of the College of Bishops that the provision in question is not valid or binding upon this body. One General Conference has not the right, by a mere majority vote, to pass a measure which a succeeding General Conference cannot alter or amend save by a two-thirds vote, unless in a case where vested rights have been created."

W. H. Potter moved that the first item be substituted by the first item in the constitution adopted in 1866. This motion was laid on the table, and the first item was adopted.

The second item was read, and, on motion of A. W. Wilson, was laid on the table, and made the order of the day for this afternoon, after action on Report No. 10 of Committee on Books and Periodicals.

A motion of W. Barringer, that such matters as are on the table be referred to the Bishops to bring forward according to their discretion, was lost.

Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Monday Afternoon, May 23, 1870.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Doggett in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by J. C. Granbery.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Keener took the chair, and called for Reports of Committees.

On motion of W. Headen, the call was suspended to allow Report No. 5 of the Committee on Education to be taken up.

On motion of J. E. Evans and E. H. Myers, the Report was amended by striking out resolution 3, asking "immediate relief," and inserting another resolution in its place. The Report, thus amended, was then adopted, as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, NO. 5.

On the memorial of Wm. Headen, (a member of this General Conference, and agent of the Corpus Christi Male and Female Academy,) which was presented to the Conference and referred to this committee, it reports: That the importance of this institution to the interests of Protestant Christianity in the region where it is located can hardly be overestimated. Situated at the farthest point in the South-west, where we have a ministerial charge, on the very confines of Mexico, in the midst of a population mostly Roman Catholic, but which, being greatly disaffected toward its own priesthood, is now ripe for the introduction of Protestantism, it presents one of the most inviting fields for missionary labor within our reach. Since, therefore, by the instrumentality of this institution, many children of Protestant parents are being recovered from Romanism, and many more Roman Catholic children and youth may be readily brought under our influence; be it

Resolved, 1. That we regard this educational enterprise as highly important to the success of a pure Christianity in the extreme South-west.

2. That we not only heartily approve, but do most earnestly commend it and its claims, as presented by its agent, Brother Wm. Headen, to the warmest sympathy and generous liberality of our people.

3. That the subject of giving aid to the Corpus Christi Male and Female College be referred to the Missionary Board, with instructions to do what it can for the success of the school.

CHARLES TAYLOR, Chairman, *pro tem*.

On motion of N. A. Cravens, Report No. 3 of Committee on Itinerancy was taken up, and adopted. (See page 232.)

A memorial from J. W. P. McKenzie, respecting a claim of the Publishing House, was presented, read, and referred to Committee on Books and Periodicals.

C. K. Marshall and others offered resolutions favoring the appointment of a committee to whom shall be referred all proposed amendments of Discipline in the interests of the General Conference, which were read and laid on the table.

Report No. 10 of Committee on Books and Periodicals, being the order of the day, was taken up.

P. A. Peterson moved to strike out "Home Circle," and insert "Southern Methodist Magazine."

T. E. Bond moved to amend the amendment by striking out the words "Southern Methodist Magazine."

A. R. Winfield called for the previous question—the call was not sustained.

On motion of J. B. McFerrin, the subject was laid on the table for the present.

Report No. 1 of Committee on Missions, being the order of the day, was called up, and, on motion of J. Boring, Dr. Munsey, Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, was invited to address the Conference on this question, at his discretion.

The second item was read, and J. B. McFerrin moved to amend by striking out items 2, 3, and 4, and by inserting another to be numbered 2.

J. S. Key moved to amend the amendment by striking out "Corresponding Secretary."

B. H. Spencer asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the present session.

R. Abbey moved adjournment—the motion was lost.

After considerable discussion, on motion of J. E. Evans, Conference adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Tuesday Morning, May 24, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Keener in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by R. Abbey.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The following resolution was then offered and read:

Resolved, That for the remainder of the session the fifteen-minutes' rule be changed to five minutes, and that the Bishops be authorized to call up at discretion the business of the Conference in such order as may seem to them necessary and fitting.

A. M. SHIPP,

J. B. COTTRELL.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the resolution was divided.

A motion of D'Arcy Paul, to strike out five minutes and insert ten, was lost. The first part of the resolution was then adopted by a vote of 96 to 53.

On motion of L. M. Lee, the second part of the resolution was laid on the table.

Bishop McTyeire took the chair.

Leave of absence, after this morning, was granted to L. D. Travers, lay delegate of the Virginia Conference; A. H. Colquitt and James Jackson, lay delegates of the South Georgia Conference; S. W. Moore, clerical delegate of the Memphis Conference; S. J. Bradley, lay dele-

gate, and S. Regester, clerical delegate, of the Baltimore Conference; T. E. Thompson, lay delegate of the Missouri Conference; and, after to-morrow, to T. W. Garrett, lay delegate of the Virginia Conference, and W. P. Conway, lay delegate of the Baltimore Conference.

J. B. Palmer and M. E. Baldrige, lay delegates of the Tennessee Conference, asked but did not obtain leave of absence after to-morrow.

W. M. Rush, chairman of Committee on Books and Periodicals, submitted Reports Nos. 18 and 19 of that committee, which were read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 18.

Your committee, to whom was referred the memorial of W. W. Bennett, asking that the Publishing House be authorized to pay a certain claim to Leroy M. Lee, having considered the same, would recommend that the claim be referred for adjudication to the Book Committee.

Also, your committee, having considered the memorial of J. W. P. McKenzie, touching certain claims which the Publishing House holds against him, but which he says he has paid, would recommend that this whole matter be referred to the General Book Agent and the East Texas Conference for adjudication and settlement at the next session of that Conference.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 19.

Your committee, to whom were referred certain memorials inquiring into the propriety and expediency of publishing a Hymn and Tune-book, would recommend for adoption by the General Conference the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the General Book Agent be, and he hereby is, authorized to publish a Hymn and Tune-book for the use of our congregations.

2. That Dr. J. M. Bonnell, Dr. Thos. O. Summers, and Dr. W. P. Harrison are hereby appointed a committee to compile the Hymn and Tune-book for publication.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

Jesse Boring, chairman of Committee on Missions, submitted Report No. 10 of that committee, which was read, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 10.

The committee report that they have considered the Report of the Board of Foreign Missions, and beg leave to recommend that it be so

amended as to leave out the expletives introduced in the case of the late Treasurer of said Board.

Respectfully submitted.

JESSE BORING, Chairman.

J. A. Dawson raised a point of order—whether it is competent for the Conference to take the action recommended by the committee to amend the Report of the Board of Foreign Missions.

The Chair ruled that the point of order was well taken, and that the General Conference is not competent to amend the Report of the Board of Foreign Missions; the Report of the committee, therefore, is out of order.

Paul Whitehead appealed from the decision of the Chair, and assigned the grounds of his appeal.

The decision of the Chair was sustained.

On motion of M. S. Andrews, the order of the day, being the election of General Conference officers, was suspended.

A. L. P. Green, chairman of the Special Committee on the proposition of Dr. Bledsoe, concerning a Quarterly Review, submitted the Report of that committee, which was read.

Pending action on the first item, A. Monroe called for the previous question—the call was sustained, and the first item was adopted.

The second item was adopted.

The third item was read, and J. E. Evans moved to amend by striking out the last clause, and inserting the clause, “giving the Church one-third of its profits.” This motion was laid on the table, and the item was adopted.

The fourth item was adopted.

The fifth item was read, and adopted.

The Report, as a whole, was then adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SOUTHERN REVIEW.

The committee appointed to consider the proposition of A. T. Bledsoe, LL.D., to identify the Southern Review with the interests of the M. E. Church, South, have carefully considered the same, and recommend its acceptance upon the following terms:

1st. The elimination from said Review of all party politics, and the substitution of a Theological Department.

2d. Its advocacy of the doctrines and polity of the M. E. Church, South.

3d. The exemption of the Church from all pecuniary responsibility and legal liability on its account, and the relinquishment by the Church of all claim upon its emoluments.

4th. The acceptance by Dr. Bledsoe of an editorial committee, to be appointed by the College of Bishops, and to be associated with him in conducting the Theological Department.

5th. That on these conditions the Church accept the proposition, and recommend the adoption of all suitable means for its extensive circulation throughout the Church.

A. L. P. GREEN,
S. S. ROSZEL,
W. H. WATKINS,
A. H. REDFORD,
J. HAMILTON,
L. C. GARLAND,
GEO. N. LESTER.

D. R. McAnally moved a reconsideration.

On motion of G. N. Lester, this motion was laid on the table.

C. W. Miller, clerical delegate from the Kentucky Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence, on account of family affliction. H. A. M. Henderson, Reserve, took his place.

The following resolution was offered by E. H. Myers, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the Bishops be requested to issue a Pastoral Letter, emanating from this General Conference, through them, to give the true views of the Church, and of this body, on the subject of the indulgence of our members in worldly amusements and unscriptural employments and practices; and enforce the opinion of this Conference, that the Discipline should be mildly yet firmly exercised against all who persistently infract the law of God in any particular.

The question on which Conference adjourned yesterday afternoon, being the amendment of J. S. Key to strike out "Corresponding Secretary" in the amendment of J. B. McFerrin to item 2 in Report No. 1 of Committee on Missions, was taken up.

The time was extended to allow E. W. Schon to finish his speech in opposition to the amendment of J. S. Key, after which, on motion of J. E. Evans, it was ordered that when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet at 3½ o'clock this afternoon.

The time was extended to allow E. H. Myers to finish his speech in favor of said amendment.

He was followed on the same side by A. L. P. Green, R. S. Moran, and W. W. Bennett.

P. A. Peterson called for the previous question—the call was sustained, and the amendment of J. S. Key was adopted.

The amendment of J. B. McFerrin, thus amended, was then adopted.

The time of adjournment was extended to finish action on this Report.

Items 2, 3, 4, were set aside, being substituted by the amendment of J. B. McFerrin.

Item 5 was read, and, on motion of J. S. Key, was amended by striking out the words "it being understood that they shall not receive more than is allowed by the Discipline to other superannuated ministers, widows, and orphans." It was then adopted as thus amended.

Items 6 and 7 were then adopted.

Item 8 was read, and a motion of J. S. Key, to amend by striking out the words "by the Secretaries," and inserting "by such agents as the Board may order," did not prevail. The item was then adopted.

Item 9 was read, and pending its consideration, Conference adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Tuesday Afternoon, May 24, 1870.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by M. R. Jones.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Paine took the chair, and called for Reports. No response.

The following resolutions were then offered, read, and adopted :

Resolved, That the Bishops be authorized to organize a Conference or Conferences, anywhere in the United States, not already occupied by an Annual Conference of our Church, at any time during the next four years, when in their judgment it is expedient to do so.

A. L. P. GREEN,

L. PIERCE,

J. B. MCFERRIN.

Resolved, That the Book Agent be authorized, in publishing the Report of the Board of Foreign Missions, to omit such portions as have been inclosed in brackets by the Committee on Missions.

A. L. P. GREEN,

A. W. WILSON.

Whereas, we regard our Bishops as sustaining the relation of chief pastors to the ministry ; and,

Whereas, we believe our annual examinations might be rendered more useful to the ministry, and through them to the whole Church ; therefore,

Resolved, That we most respectfully but earnestly recommend to our

Bishops, that hereafter they so conduct those examinations in all the Conferences, in respect to all the pastors, old and young, whether they hold class-meetings, and to what extent; and in what manner they have performed their pastoral duties; thereby to stir up our pure minds by way of remembrance, and obtain valuable information.

ANDREW MONROE,

W. M. RUSH.

The subject on which Conference adjourned this morning, being item 9 of the Report No. 1 of Committee on Missions, was taken up.

P. A. Peterson moved to amend by substituting the following for the item as reported:

"ART. IX. The Secretary shall reside at the place where the Board is located, but may be a member of any Annual Conference. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to journalize the proceedings of the Board; to conduct its correspondence; to give information to the missionaries; to publish in the Church-papers an abstract of the proceedings of the Board; to attend to all business which the Board may have with the Government of the United States; to prepare the Annual Report of the Board; and, as far as these duties may permit, to visit the Annual Conferences and the missions under the care of the Board, with a view to promote the interests of the missionary cause. The salary of the Secretary shall be fixed by the Board, and the Board may employ such clerical assistance as may be necessary."

W. H. Potter moved to amend the amendment by striking out the clause "and as far," down to "cause." This motion did not prevail.

N. F. Reid moved to strike out the words, "and the Board may employ such clerical assistance as may be necessary." This motion was lost. Item 9, thus amended, was adopted.

Item 10 was read, and T. J. McCoy moved the following substitute:

"The Treasurer shall hold all the funds of the Board, and shall execute such bond as the Board may deem satisfactory, for the faithful performance of his duties; shall keep all funds in safe deposit, subject to his drafts as such and to those of his successors in office. He shall furnish an Annual Report to be published with the Annual Report of the Secretary."

After considerable discussion, E. E. Wiley called for the previous question—the call was sustained, and the substitute was lost.

Item 10 was then adopted.

A motion to adjourn, by J. B. McFerrin, was lost.

Item 11 was adopted.

Item 12 was read, and, on motion of J. B. McFerrin, "five" was stricken out and "seven" inserted. The item, as thus amended, was adopted.

Item 13 was read, and N. F. Reid moved to amend by striking out "all" and inserting "one-third of."

After considerable discussion, pending action on this question, N. F. Reid having the floor, Conference adjourned with the doxology and benediction.

Wednesday Morning, May 25, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Paine in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by W. P. Harrison.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Pierce took the chair, and called for Reports. No response.

The following resolutions were then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the committee of five, appointed to make arrangements for the Sunday-school Convention, be increased to twelve by the addition of Clark O. Smith, T. J. McCoy, Samuel A. Nelson, Rev. J. C. Simmons, James Wickersham, John Howard, and W. L. Lipscomb—T. J. Magruder, chairman.

Resolved, That the Sunday-school Convention, provided for by this Conference, is designed to be only an advisory assembly, to consult as to the best method of carrying out the Sunday-school system authorized by the Discipline of the M. E. Church, South.

J. E. EVANS,

S. ANTHONY.

The question on which Conference adjourned yesterday afternoon was called up.

N. F. Reid spoke in advocacy of his amendment.

J. E. Edwards offered an amendment, which was accepted by N. F. Reid, to wit:

Strike out all after the word "constitution," in the fifth line, inserting instead the following: "Each Conference Board shall pay to the treasury of the General Missionary Board 40 per cent. of all the moneys collected within its bounds for missionary purposes; the remaining 60 per cent. may be appropriated by the Annual Conference Board, and the Bishop presiding, to missions within its bounds. Any money not so appropriated shall be forwarded to the General Treasury."

A. L. P. Green spoke in opposition to the amendment, and J. B. Mc-

Ferrin in favor of it—the time being extended to allow him to finish his speech. W. H. Potter spoke on the same side. P. A. Peterson called for the previous question—the call was sustained, and the amendment was adopted.

On motion of J. E. Edwards, paragraph 2 of item 13 was stricken out. Also, all after the word “bounds” in the third paragraph.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, all after the word “District,” in the fourth line of paragraph 4, was stricken out, and the paragraph was adopted.

On motion of J. E. Edwards, the 5th paragraph was stricken out.

Item 14 was read and adopted, and, on motion of A. R. Winfield, the blank was filled by “Nashville.”

On motion of A. W. Wilson, item 15 was stricken out.

The Report, as a whole, thus amended, was then adopted, as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 1.

In presenting their first Report, the Committee on Missions beg leave to state, that in entering upon their work, they found themselves greatly embarrassed by what seemed to be the natural results of the system adopted by the General Conference of 1866 upon the subject of Missions. Unwilling to propose a radical change in so short a time, we have sought, by the suggestion of amendments and modifications, so to adapt the system of a Foreign and Domestic Board to the necessities of the case, as to continue it at least four years longer. With the view to accomplish an end so desirable, the Secretaries of both Boards, Drs. Munsey and McFerrin, were invited by the committee to submit their views upon the subject, which they did, and from which most important information was obtained. But after every effort to continue the present organization of our missionary work, we feel compelled, in view of the last four years' experience, the large debts now demanding settlement, the expenses necessarily attending two Boards and their operations, together with the state of the country, to recommend, most respectfully, the following for the adoption of this General Conference :

CHAPTER X.—*Support of Missions.*

The missionary operations of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, shall hereafter be committed to one Board, under the following provisions and regulations :

ARTICLE I. The Board shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and eleven Managers. They shall all be members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and shall be

elected quadrennially by the General Conference, except the Treasurer, who shall be elected by the Board. When, from any cause, the General Conference shall fail to meet at the appointed time, the Board shall continue in office until the next meeting of the General Conference. The Bishops shall be *ex officio* members of the Board.

ART. II. The Board shall have authority to make by-laws for regulating its own proceedings; to appropriate money to defray incidental expenses; to provide for the support of superannuated missionaries, and widows and orphans of missionaries, who may not be provided for by any Annual Conference; to print books for the Indian, German, and Foreign Missions; to build houses of worship, school-houses, residences for the missionaries, and defray all other necessary expenses incident to the work under its care. The Board shall also publish, annually, a statement of its transactions and funds, and lay before the General Conference a report of all its transactions, and a statement of its funds up to some convenient day near and prior to the time of holding the General Conference.

ART. III. The Board shall meet annually to make appropriations for the ensuing year; determine what fields shall be occupied as foreign missions; the number of persons to be employed in each; estimate the sums necessary for the support of each mission; fix the amount which may be drawn for during the year, and the division of said amount between the Foreign and Domestic Missions.

ART. IV. The sums allowed for the support of missionaries shall be sufficient to support them in their work. The Board shall require communications to be made quarterly by each missionary, or from each mission, to the Secretary, giving information of the state and prospects of the missions in which they are employed. No one shall be acknowledged as a missionary, or receive support from the Board, who has not some definite work assigned him, or who could not be an effective laborer on a circuit, except as is provided for in Article II.

ART. V. The revenue of the Board shall be derived as follows: From annual collections in every congregation, at such time, and in such manner, as each Annual Conference shall direct; from special collections made by the Secretary, and from donations and legacies.

ART. VI. The Secretary shall reside at the place where the Board is located, but may be a member of any Annual Conference. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to journalize the proceedings of the Board; to conduct its correspondence; to give information to the missionaries; to publish in the Church-papers an abstract of the proceedings of the Board; to attend to all business which the Board may have with the Government of the United States; to prepare the Annual Report of the

Board; and so far as these duties may permit, to visit the Annual Conferences, and the missions under the care of the Board, with a view to promote the interests of the missionary cause. The salary of the Secretary shall be fixed by the Board, and the Board may employ such clerical assistance as may be necessary.

ART. VII. The Treasurer shall hold all the funds of the Board in safe deposit, which deposit shall be made by him as an officer of the Board, subject to his drafts as such, and to those of his successors in office. He shall also furnish an Annual Report, to be published with the Report of the Secretary.

ART. VIII. In case of vacancy occasioned by death, resignation, or otherwise, in the Board, such vacancy shall be filled by the Board, until the ensuing General Conference.

ART. IX. Nine members at an annual meeting of the Board, and seven members at a called meeting, shall constitute a quorum.

ART. X. (1) It shall be the duty of each Annual Conference to organize a Conference Board of Missions, which shall appoint its own officers, and regulate its own administration, subject to the provisions of this Constitution. Each Conference Board shall pay into the treasury of the General Missionary Board, forty *per cent.* of all the moneys collected within its bounds for missionary purposes; the remaining sixty *per cent.* may be appropriated by the Annual Conference Board, and the Bishop presiding, to missions within its bounds. Any money not so appropriated shall be forwarded to the General Treasury. (2) Each Annual Conference shall designate the time and manner in which collections for missions shall be taken up within its bounds. (3) It shall be the duty of each Presiding Elder to bring the subject of missions before the District Conference, and also before the Quarterly Conference of each circuit and station within his District.

ART. XI. This Board shall be located and domiciled in the city of Nashville, State of Tennessee.

The following preamble and resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Whereas, the larger portion of our German work lies in the bounds of the Texas Conferences, and the Editor at a point nearer the work can better represent the wants of this important field; therefore,

Resolved, That the German Apologist be transferred to Galveston, and that it be hereafter published at that point.

R. ALEXANDER,
I. G. JOHN.

Report No. 9 of Committee on Episcopacy was called up, and the resolutions were adopted by a vote of 160 to 4, the words "in writing" being inserted after the word "reasons," as follows:

Resolved, 1. That the last paragraph on page 44 of the Discipline, beginning with "Provided," and ending with the words "null and void," be stricken out.

2. That the following proviso, if it receive a two-thirds majority of this body, be sent round to the several Annual Conferences; and if it receive a three-fourths vote of the same, it shall be inserted in the Discipline in lieu of the aforesaid paragraph:

"*Provided*, that when any rule or regulation is adopted by the General Conference, which, in the opinion of the Bishops, is unconstitutional, the Bishops may present to the Conference which passed said rule or regulation, their objections thereto, with their reasons, in writing; and if then the General Conference shall, by a two-thirds vote, adhere to its action on said rule or regulation, it shall then take the course prescribed for altering a restrictive rule, and if thus passed upon affirmatively, the Bishops shall announce that such rule or regulation takes effect from that time."

The committee had leave to withdraw the preamble of said Report. (See pages 280-287.)

Report No. 10 of the Committee on Books and Periodicals was called up.

A. H. Redford offered the following substitute, which was not adopted:

Resolved, That the Book Agent be instructed to issue a prospectus for a Monthly soon after the close of this General Conference, and that he be authorized to publish such Monthly as soon as the subscription-list indicates that the current expenses may be met.

Resolved, 2. That in the event of the practicability of such publication, the Bishops and Book Committee be authorized to elect a suitable Editor.

E. H. Myers offered an amendment to the resolution. W. C. Johnson moved to strike out the name "Southern New Monthly." This motion was lost.

W. H. Fleming called for the previous question—the call was sustained, and the amendment was adopted.

Report No. 10, as thus amended, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 10.

The Committee on Books and Periodicals have had before them the

recommendation of the Agent of the Publishing House to publish a monthly periodical combining the features of a Review and Magazine; and also a resolution offered by P. A. Peterson and E. H. Myers, proposing a Monthly, combining the features of a Religious Magazine and a Theological and Literary Review; and also a paper offered by J. P. Ralls and J. Mathews, recommending the publication of a monthly periodical particularly adapted to the youth of the Church.

Upon the whole subject thus referred to them, the committee report for adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the Book Agent be instructed to issue, in 1871, a first-class Monthly Literary Magazine, at not more than \$4 per annum, to be called The Southern New Monthly Magazine.

2. That the first number of said Magazine be published by 1st September, 1870, which shall be used in canvassing for subscribers; and by February, 1871, the Magazine shall begin its regular issue.

3. That an Editor for said Monthly Magazine be elected by this General Conference, who shall bring out the specimen number aforesaid; and that his salary, to be fixed by the Book Committee, shall run from 1st January, 1871.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

Report No. 11 of the Committee on Books and Periodicals was called up, and amended by striking out the words "that the proposition of Prof. Stark be accepted, and." The Report, thus amended, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 11.

Your committee to whom was referred the communication of Prof. A. B. Stark, Editor of The Home Monthly, having considered the same, would recommend that the Book Agent be authorized to make a fair and equitable arrangement with Prof. Stark for his interest in The Home Monthly.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

A motion of M. S. Andrews to reconsider the action upon Report No. 10, was laid on the table.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the Conference proceeded to elect officers—by ballot, when more than one is nominated; by rising vote, when only one.

M. S. Andrews nominated A. H. Redford as Book Agent. He was unanimously elected, by a rising vote.

Thos. O. Summers was nominated and unanimously elected, by a rising vote, Editor of Books and Nashville Christian Advocate.

W. C. Johnson was unanimously elected, by a rising vote, Editor of the Western Methodist, formerly the Memphis and Arkansas Christian Advocate; E. H. Myers, Editor of the Southern Christian Advocate; T. M. Finney, Editor of the St. Louis Christian Advocate; I. G. John, Editor of the Texas Christian Advocate.

W. E. Munsey, J. B. McFerrin, W. G. E. Cunnyingham, and E. W. Schon, were severally nominated as Secretary of the Board of Missions.

The first ballot resulted as follows: J. B. McFerrin, 74; W. E. Munsey, 46; W. G. E. Cunnyingham, 31; E. W. Schon, 4; L. Parker, 1. Whole number of votes cast, 156—necessary to a choice, 79 votes. No election.

On the second ballot, J. B. McFerrin received 87 votes; W. E. Munsey, 50; W. G. E. Cunnyingham, 14; L. Parker, 3. Whole number cast, 154. Necessary to a choice, 78. J. B. McFerrin was declared duly elected Secretary of the Board of Missions.

On motion of E. H. Myers and A. H. Redford, a committee of five to nominate double the number of persons to be elected Members of the Board of Missions, and also Members of the Book Committee, was appointed, as follows: E. H. Myers, S. S. Roszell, E. E. Wiley, D. Morton, C. Taylor.

On motion of I. G. John, the vote by which the German Apologist was located at Galveston, was reconsidered, and the place was changed to New Orleans.

J. B. A. Ahrens was elected unanimously, by a rising vote, Editor of the German Apologist, and Ed. N. S. Blogg, Associate Editor.

F. Vordenbaumen and John Schaper were added to the Publishing Committee of the German Apologist.

A. G. Haygood, H. A. M. Henderson, J. E. Edwards, I. G. John, W. M. Leftwich, J. Mathews, L. D. Huston, J. C. Simmons, and T. J. Magruder, were severally put in nomination for Sunday-school Secretary. The result of the ballot was as follows: A. G. Haygood received 37 votes; H. A. M. Henderson, 30; W. M. Leftwich, 26; J. E. Edwards, 24; J. Mathews, 11; T. J. Magruder, 9; L. D. Huston, 8; I. G. John, 6; J. C. Simmons, 3; W. V. Tudor, 1; R. A. Young, 1. Whole number of votes cast, 156—necessary to a choice, 79. No election.

The second ballot resulted as follows: A. G. Haygood received 75 votes; H. A. M. Henderson, 38; W. M. Leftwich, 27; L. D. Huston, 3; J. Mathews, 3; I. G. John, 2; J. E. Edwards, 2; T. J. Magruder, 2. Whole number of votes cast, 152—necessary to a choice, 77. No election.

The third ballot resulted as follows: A. G. Haygood, 110; H. A. M. Henderson, 29; W. M. Leftwich, 5; I. G. John, 3; L. D. Huston, 2; J. Mathews, 1. Whole number of ballots cast, 150—necessary to a choice, 76. Atticus G. Haygood was declared duly elected Sunday-school-Secretary.

W. P. Harrison, T. E. Bond, A. B. Stark, R. S. Moran, J. E. Edwards, were severally nominated for Editor of the Monthly Magazine. The ballot resulted as follows: W. P. Harrison received 84 votes; T. E. Bond, 36; J. E. Edwards, 12; A. B. Stark, 12; R. S. Moran, 5; E. H. Myers, 1; W. V. Tudor, 1. Whole number of votes cast, 151—necessary to a choice, 76. W. P. Harrison was declared duly elected Editor of the Monthly.

W. I. Green, lay delegate of the South Georgia Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence.

The Pastoral Address was then read by Bishop Wightman, as follows:

PASTORAL ADDRESS.

To the Members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South:

DEAR BRETHREN:—We have been requested by the General Conference, now in-session, to address to you a brief pastoral letter, on the subject of worldly and fashionable amusements. The design of this is to set forth an earnest deliverance as to the danger to spiritual religion arising from lax views of moral obligation at this point, and the peril to the soul incurred by any removal of the ancient landmarks which separate the Church of Christ from the spirit of the world. To the thoughtful, religious mind, the tendency of society in the direction of unrestrained indulgence in all forms of sensuous gratification, is alarming. Whether this is the result of a reaction in the public mind from restraints necessarily imposed by years of devastating civil war, or of an advancing civilization which ministers mainly to material ends and luxurious tastes, it is certain that the eager rush of Southern society after amusements of one kind and another, is one of the startling signs of the times.

We feel assured that a religion of mere forms and dogmas, whatever its boast may be, cannot arrest this current, or counteract its tendency to ruinous social degradation. Nothing less than a genuine godliness, in the power of its regenerating influence, can meet the necessities of the case. So powerful, indeed, are the fascinations of pleasure, so abounding the iniquity, in high places and low, that "the love of many has waxed cold." Young persons of cultivated mind and elegant manners, who may desire to be sin-

cerely religious, are specially open to danger from the tone of surrounding fashionable society, and from the plausibilities of the worldly spirit. But the law of *gratification*, which rules the world and offers the present and immediate, is, and ever must be, opposed to the unbending law of *duty* which conscience and God impose. There can be no compromise here. There can be no inward experience of grace, no valid religion of the heart, which is not preceded by a full, unreserved, irrevocable commitment to the Lord Jesus. This commitment involves self-denial—taking up the cross and following Christ. It is the surrender of the will to a supreme governing purpose—of the affections to a supreme governing love. A religion of mere culture; of amiabilities and æsthetic tastes; of sentiment, opinion, and ceremony, may readily allow participation in “diversions which cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus”—in dancing and reveling; in theatrical, and operatic, and circus exhibitions; in the gambling operations of the turf—not to mention the recently-revived excitements of the cock-pit. But the religion which is a divine life in the soul of Christ’s true disciple, heeds the voice of conscience, and feels the powers of the world to come. It confers the dignity of holiness; the strength of self-denial; the glad freedom of a spirit rejoicing in the right and good. Such a religion needs not, desires not, allows not, participation in worldly pleasures, in diversions which, however sanctioned by fashion, are felt and known to be wrong by every truly awakened heart. Its spiritual discernment is not deceived by well-dressed plausibilities; by refinements in taste, or respectabilities in social position. It has “put on the Lord Jesus,” and made “no provision for the flesh to fulfill the lusts thereof.” The influence of this form of religious character may be silent; but it is none the less potent—in the family, by the fireside, at the watering-place, or on the broad thoroughfares of business. What the Church *lives*, will alone affect the world.

In conclusion, we beg to suggest that the pastors of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, give heed to these things in the administration of discipline. Indulgence in worldly diversions of the class aforementioned, we hold to be inconsistent with the baptismal vows of our members, and with their Church-covenant. They have solemnly engaged to “renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the carnal desires of the flesh,” so that they “will not follow or be led by them.” The Book of Discipline provides not only against crimes and gross immoralities, but there is process laid down for cases of “imprudent conduct, and indulging sinful tempers or words.” We are persuaded that where

that process is faithfully, firmly, but kindly, followed, these growing evils may be arrested.

That you all, beloved brethren, may be blameless and harmless, the children of God without rebuke—lights in the world, holding forth the word of life—is the earnest desire, and prayer of your pastors. “Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.” And may the God of peace be with you!

In behalf of the General Conference and the College of Bishops.

R. PAINE.

The following resolution was offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the preachers of our Church be, and they are hereby, directed to read the Pastoral Letter of the Bishops to their respective congregations; and that the Book Agent be directed to publish it in tract form; and that we recommend its universal circulation among our members.

P. A. PETERSON,

S. P. WHITTEN,

A. S. RIGGS.

The following resolutions were offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the General Conference recommend the formation of Children's Missionary Societies in all our Sunday-schools, and missionary collections made monthly.

T. J. MAGRUDER,

C. I. VANDEVENTER.

Resolved, 1. That the appropriations already made by the Annual Conference Boards shall be met according to the law obtaining heretofore, without respect to the present law requiring 40 *per cent.* to be forwarded to the Parent Board.

2. That where Conferences have been divided, all drafts drawn in favor of parties within those Conferences shall be paid out of the common fund of said Conferences.

JOS. B. COTTRELL,

W. H. POTTER.

It was ordered that when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet at 3½ o'clock P.M.—the special business being to choose the place of the next session of the General Conference.

Report No. 5 of the Committee on Itinerancy, and the Minority Report, were taken up.

The Minority Report was adopted. (See pages 255, 256.)

John E. Edwards, chairman of Committee on Itinerancy, submitted

Report No. 7 of that committee, which was read, and the rule requiring it to lie over was suspended. After considerable discussion, the Report was not adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 7.

The committee has considered the paper signed by H. P. Walker and C. W. Miller, asking for the introduction of the following provision, to be added to paragraph 2, under Ques. 3, Sec. 5, page 61, of the Discipline, "He [the Bishop] may, moreover, when requested by an Annual Conference, appoint a member of the body to travel within the bounds of the Conference, and do such ministerial work as the Conference may direct," and recommend concurrence on the part of the General Conference.

JNO. E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

E. H. Myers, chairman of Special Committee on Nominations, submitted the following Report, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

The committee appointed to nominate officers for the Board of Missions, offer the following names—out of whom are to be elected a President, First and Second Vice-Presidents, and eleven Managers. The committee recommend that he who receives the highest vote shall be the President; the next highest, First Vice-President, and next highest, Second Vice-President; while from the others nominated, the eleven Managers shall be elected. The names offered are: N. H. Lee, W. G. E. Cunnyingham, H. A. C. Walker, Truaten Polk, Leroy M. Lee, R. A. Young, I. G. John, D. R. McAnally, Jefferson Hamilton, A. H. Redford, John S. Martin, Mortimer Hamilton, Asa Holt, T. O. Summers, W. H. Potter, N. F. Reid, J. A. Dawson, O. R. Blue, A. G. Haygood, T. J. Magruder, John Morrow, W. T. Gates, W. P. Harrison, J. H. Brooks, Drummond Welburn, A. P. McFerrin, A. R. Winfield, W. T. Copeland, W. M. Rush, E. K. Miller, R. Alexander, J. Anderson.

The committee report the following persons as the Book Committee: J. E. Evans, S. Watson, P. A. Peterson, J. S. Lithgow, A. L. P. Green, W. R. Elliston, Thompson Anderson, William H. Morgan, Thos. D. Fite.

Respectfully submitted.

E. H. MYERS, Chairman.

Conference then adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Wednesday Afternoon, May 25, 1870.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Pierce in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by C. K. Marshall.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop Kavanaugh took the chair.

The order of the day was taken up, and Louisville, Nashville, Baltimore, Richmond, San Francisco, and Atlanta, were severally put in nomination, as the place for the next session of the General Conference.

Louisville having received 103 votes, the Conference, by a unanimous vote, chose that city as the place of the next session.

L. M. Lee, chairman of Committee on Episcopacy, submitted Report No. 10 of that committee, which was read. J. S. Key called for the previous question—the call was not sustained. The Report was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 10.

The Committee on Episcopacy beg leave to make their Report No. 10, respecting the estimate for the support of the Bishops.

I. They recommend that the assessment for Bishops' support be fixed as follows:

APPROPRIATIONS TO THE BISHOPS.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Bishop Andrew..... | \$2500 00 |
| Bishop Early..... | 2500 00 |
| Bishop Paine..... | 3000 00 |
| Bishop Pierce..... | 3000 00 |
| Bishop Kavanaugh..... | 3000 00 |
| Bishop Wightman..... | 3000 00 |
| Bishop Marvin..... | 3000 00 |
| Bishop Doggett..... | 3000 00 |
| Bishop McTyeire..... | 3000 00 |
| Bishop Keener..... | 3000 00 |

Total..... \$29,000 00

II. They recommend that this \$29,000 00 be distributed for payment among the Conferences, as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Baltimore Conference..... | \$1450 00 |
| Virginia Conference..... | 1700 00 |
| Western Virginia Conference..... | 200 00 |
| North Carolina Conference..... | 1600 00 |
| South Carolina Conference..... | 875 00 |
| North Georgia Conference..... | 1500 00 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| South Georgia Conference..... | 1400 00 |
| Florida Conference..... | 200 00 |
| Alabama Conference | 1450 00 |
| North Alabama Conference..... | 1100 00 |
| Louisiana Conference..... | 1140 00 |
| Mississippi Conference..... | 1350 00 |
| North Mississippi Conference..... | 1000 00 |
| Memphis Conference..... | 1400 00 |
| Tennessee Conference..... | 1800 00 |
| Holston Conference..... | 650 00 |
| Kentucky Conference..... | 1350 00 |
| Louisville Conference..... | 1400 00 |
| St. Louis Conference..... | 1300 00 |
| Missouri Conference..... | 1200 00 |
| Kansas and Nebraska Conference..... | 125 00 |
| Little Rock Conference..... | 700 00 |
| Arkansas Conference..... | 425 00 |
| White River Conference | 475 00 |
| Indian Mission Conference..... | 60 00 |
| Texas Conference..... | 500 00 |
| Trinity Conference | 550 00 |
| East Texas Conference..... | 375 00 |
| North-west Texas Conference..... | 350 00 |
| West Texas Conference..... | 300 00 |
| Columbia Conference..... | 300 00 |
| Pacific Conference..... | 400 00 |
| Los Angeles Conference..... | 100 00 |
| Illinois Conference..... | 275 00 |

Total..... \$29,000 00

Respectfully submitted.

L. M. LEE, Chairman.

The Rev. Dr. Teasdale, Corresponding Secretary of the Sunday-school Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, was introduced to the Conference.

Report No. 2 of Committee on Revisal was called up. A motion of P. A. Peterson to strike out "that the General Conference do not concur," and the words "number 14 be changed to 18," was laid on the table. After considerable discussion, H. A. C. Walker called for the previous question—the call was sustained, and the Report, as a whole, was adopted. (See page 192.)

Report No. 3 of Committee on Revisal was taken up, read, and acted on, item by item. The first item is as follows:

Your committee have had before them sundry memorials upon the subject of the appointment of Superintendents of Sunday-schools, and recommend to change Ans. 2 to Ques. 4, Sec. 3, Chap. II., page 9, new arrangement, so as to read: "To supervise the instruction of children, and the interests of Sunday-schools, and, upon nomination by the preacher in charge, to annually elect the Superintendents."

J. E. Edwards moved to amend this item by adding after the words, "preacher in charge," the words, "of two or three persons."

A. W. Wilson moved, as a substitute, Report No. 4 of Committee on Sunday-schools.

On motion of W. H. Potter, the substitute, amendment, and first item, were laid on the table.

B. H. Spencer asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the afternoon session, and that he be allowed to record his vote on this question.

On motion of J. E. Evans, it was ordered that when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The other items of the Report were adopted in order.

The Report, as a whole, thus amended, was adopted. (See page 207.)

Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Thursday Morning, May 26, 1870.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Wightman in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by C. Long.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The following resolutions were then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the Treasurers of the Boards of Foreign and Domestic Missions, superseded by the Board of Missions created by this Conference, be instructed to turn over all the moneys and assets of every kind which may be in their hands to the Treasurer of the newly appointed Board.

J. B. MCFERRIN,

W. M. LEFTWICH.

Resolved, That Rev. W. E. Munsey, D.D., be, and he is hereby, requested to continue in the great work of raising funds to liquidate the old missionary debt of the Church, until the next session of the Annual Conference of which he is a member; and that the Board of Missions

be instructed to provide for his support, and appropriate such funds as he may raise to the payment of the old missionary debt.

W. M. LEFTWICH,
J. B. MCFERRIN,
A. S. RIGGS.

Resolved, 1. That the Book Agent and Book Editor be instructed to prepare and publish the Discipline, as revised by this General Conference, at the earliest day.

2. That Bishop McTyeire be requested to assist the Editor in its preparation.

J. S. MARTIN,
JAS. A. DAWSON.

The committee of five on the Sunday-school Hymn and Tune-book were announced, as follows: T. J. Magruder, Baltimore; Judge W. H. Foster, New Orleans; Dr. W. P. Harrison, Macon; Theodore F. Childs, St. Louis; O. B. Curlin, Louisville.

The Report of Committee on Finance was taken up, and, on motion of R. S. Moran, was laid on the table.

The resolutions of L. Pierce, S. Anthony, and J. S. Key, on Infant Baptism, were taken up, discussed at some length, and withdrawn by the movers.

Bishop Andrew made an affecting parting address to the Conference. He said:

“I don’t expect to take up much time—not half as much as you have wasted in quarreling over that resolution, and then indefinitely postponing it. I am glad that it has been done, however. Now, I want to say a few things to you. I have been attending your present session, and it has afforded me much pleasure. I have met many of my old friends, and they have pressed my hands warmly, and made me feel very happy. And now we are going to separate. My mind has been burdened when I have looked on this large body of preachers and lay brethren, and I have thought—Have you sought the glory of God more than your own? Have you considered this in all your speeches, and talks, and Reports? And now another point. You are now about to part. Many of us will never meet again. Shall we go away, and carry with us the flame of revival, and show that the General Conference has been a season of reviving influences? Your people will soon see it if this is the case. I have been gratified, as well as sorry, to hear some of your debates. I am glad that we have been conservative enough to reject a great many things that have been presented. I feel as if I were delivering my last charge. Many years ago, it was my habit to

deliver an address at the close of Conference. It is not now, under similar circumstances. I am about to leave you. Farewell! That word comes with sadness from my heart. I'll never see many of you any more. I want you to remember the old man. I want you to pray for the old Bishop. I think I can say, with Paul: 'I have coveted no man's silver or gold.' I have not aimed at my own glory. I have always gone wherever I have been sent. I can appeal to my colleagues to say whether I have ever flinched. When I went into the work, I considered that I had given myself up to God, and had no right to choose where I should go. That's the spirit of the Itinerancy. No man is fit for it who has not laid all on God's altar. If you are seeking and clamoring for good places, what will the people say of you? Now, perhaps I hear more than you do, and I have been pained at some things which have come to my ears. You have no right to choose your own work. Now, some preachers want to be Bishop. If you want comfort and honor, you had better be where you are. If the Church calls you, then go, but woe be to him who thrusts himself into a position to which God has not called him. I remember well the last charge of the venerable Bishop McKendree to me. We were coming down from Philadelphia just after I had been elected Bishop. I said to him that the Conference had laid on me a work for which I was not prepared, and had no experience whatever; and I asked him to please give me some advice. He said: 'James, I have not much to say, but I will say, [and I want you Bishops to hear it,] Never shrink from responsibility, for remember that, by this, you assume the most fearful of all responsibilities.' I have thought of that ever since. To you preachers I would say, You know I love you all, and as an old man, I take the liberty of catechising you a little. Many of you are young men, and I pray you to consecrate your hearts and lives to the work of Christ. Don't be afraid of not being provided for. This Book [with his hand on the Bible] provides for you. A California missionary once said to me, 'God has so often interposed in my behalf that I do not feel concerned at all, for I know that God will take care of me.' Go forward and do your duty. The Duke of Sully once said to Henry IV., 'You treat your old servants badly: you appoint those who are not your friends to places where they receive large salaries, and leave your old friends out.' The King said, 'Do n't be uneasy—you take care of my interests, and I will take care of yours.' Let us trust in God. I have been traveling sixty years. I remember the venerable Dr. Pierce when the Bishop was a baby. I thought at that time he would n't live long; but here he is before me, in a wonderful state of mental and physical activity. God bless the old man!

I have always sustained an intimate relation to the Bishop. God bless you, George! I rejoice at your triumph, and pray that you may live long. Now, brethren, forgive the old man for talking so long. God bless you and yours! I love you all. And when you go away, pray that up yonder I may stand with those who have labored with me on earth."

The following resolutions were then offered, read, and adopted by a rising vote:

Resolved, That the presence and counsels of our beloved Senior Bishop, the Rev. James O. Andrew, at this Conference, have been a source of great pleasure and comfort to the members of this body.

Resolved, That we separate from him, after hearing perhaps his last words, with fervent prayer and hope that his declining years may be full of joy, and that his dying hour may be radiant with the light of immortality.

J. B. McFERRIN,

T. O. SUMMERS.

The following resolutions were offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the chairmen of the Boards of Finance of the respective Conferences are instructed to take into consideration the new estimate and apportionment for the Bishops, and readjust the assessments in their Conferences and in the portions added to them accordingly.

Resolved, That the delegates included in the new Conferences made now, appoint a Board of Finance for their respective Conferences to attend to this matter.

E. H. MYERS,

A. L. P. GREEN.

Resolved, That the Rev. S. Watson is hereby elected Editor of the Christian Index, until other arrangements are made by the colored people for a Church organ.

J. E. EVANS.

Resolved, That Thos. Taylor be added to the committee appointed by the Conference to attend the General Conference of the colored people, December next.

The Rev. Dr. Munsey addressed the Conference, declining the work to which he was called by a resolution adopted this morning.

The resolution of R. Alexander and J. W. Whipple, instructing the Book Agent to keep on deposit at the Texas Book Depository, in Galveston, our publications to the amount of two thousand dollars, was called up, and lost.

The following resolution was offered, read, and not adopted:

Whereas, the condition of our Book Concern requires such rigid

economy that no facilities can be afforded to the remote portions of the work ; therefore,

Resolved, That the Agent and Book Committee be instructed to employ no more than \$3,000 in the improvement and enlargement of our buildings at Nashville, the object of our Book Concern being to supply the Church with religious literature, and not the building up of an establishment for show.

I. G. JOHN,
T. POLK.

The committee on the Quarterly Review were announced, as follows : Bishop Doggett, Professor Francis H. Smith, A. W. Wilson.

Bishop Marvin took the chair.

The Report of the Special Committee on Orphans' Homes was taken up, and amended by striking out the clause providing that it be placed in the Discipline. The Report, as thus amended, was adopted. (See page 225.)

On motion of E. H. Myers, Bishop McTyeire, J. B. McFerrin, and A. H. Redford, were appointed a committee to nominate officers and managers of the Missionary Board.

The following resolution was offered, read, and on motion of O. R. Blue was laid on the table :

Resolved, That the Bishops who shall preside at the annual sessions of the North Carolina Conference, during the next four years, be, and they are hereby, authorized to appoint the Rev. C. F. Deems, D.D., to the Church of the Strangers, in New York City, provided the North Carolina Conference shall request such an appointment to be made from year to year during that time.

R. S. MORAN.

Report No 17 of Committee on Books and Periodicals was taken up, read, and laid on the table.

The Report of Special Committee on a Collection of Church-music was taken up, and laid on the table.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted by a rising vote :

Resolved, That the Book Committee be, and is hereby, instructed to prepare and present a suitable testimonial, as an expression of the hearty appreciation by this General Conference of the arduous, accurate, and indefatigable labors of our esteemed Secretary, the Rev. T. O. Summers, D.D., and that the Book Committee be allowed full discretion in preparing the same.

I. G. JOHN,
W. HEADEN,
THOS. REED.

Bishop McTyeire nominated the officers and managers of the Board of Missions, as follows: T. O. Summers, President; N. H. Lee, First Vice-President; W. G. E. Cunyningham, Second Vice-President; A. G. Haygood, W. P. Harrison, R. A. Young, Mortimer Hamilton, A. P. McFerrin, John Morrow, W. T. Gates, W. M. Rush, J. Hamilton, R. Alexander, T. J. Magruder, Managers.

These nominations were confirmed.

Report No. 2 of Special Committee on the Revision of the Ritual was called up.

The first resolution was discussed at some length, and the committee had leave to withdraw the Report, with instructions to report on the subject at the next General Conference.

The following resolutions were then offered, read, and adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Conference are due, and are hereby most respectfully and with the heartiest gratitude tendered, to the citizens of Memphis and adjacent country, who so kindly received us to their homes, and with such open-hearted and elegant hospitality have entertained us during our sojourn among them.

2. That we cordially reciprocate the Christian love and fraternal courtesy which prompted the tender of their houses of worship by the Presbyterian, Cumberland Presbyterian, Christian, and Baptist Churches of the city and its immediate vicinity; and hereby express our great gratification in occupying the pulpits to which we were so kindly invited. We also gratefully recognize the liberality of Railroad and Packet Lines for commutation of fare.

H. A. C. WALKER,
F. MILTON KENNEDY,
JAMES WICKERSHAM.

Report No. 5 of the Committee on Revisal was taken up, and J. E. Evans offered the following amendment to the first item:

On page 5, new arrangement, Chap. II., Ans. 1, after the words "equal number of," strike out all down to "preachers," and insert "members, three-fourths of whom shall be laymen, and one-fourth may be local preachers."

And in the same answer, after the word "representatives," insert the words "and local preachers"; also, after the word "members," in the same line, insert the words "and local preachers."

And on page 6, Chap. II., Sec. 2, item 1, after the word "four," strike out all to the word "preachers," and insert the words "representatives, three of whom shall be laymen, and one may be a local preacher." And in item 2, after the words "lay members," insert "and

local preachers;" also, strike out all after the word "District," down to the word "direct," and insert the word "Conference." In item 3, after the words "lay members," insert "and local preachers."

R. S. Moran raised a point of order—the point was sustained by the Chair, who decided that such a change of the Constitution as is proposed by the amendment, cannot be made without reference to the Annual Conferences.

The Report was then laid on the table.

The following resolution was then offered and read, and R. S. Moran called for the previous question—the call was sustained, and the resolution was adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That the Bishops be, and are hereby, authorized to appoint, on the request of an Annual Conference, one or more preachers to any proper work beyond the bounds of the Annual Conferences.

R. ABBEY,

R. S. MORAN.

On motion of W. M. Leftwich, the vote was reconsidered by which the name of the Kansas and Nebraska Conference was decided—and the name was changed to Western Conference. (See page 296.)

A resolution of W. S. Baird and others, proposing a change of the name of the Church to Episcopal Methodist Church, was read, discussed, and laid on the table among the unfinished business—the movers of the resolution preferring to substitute Methodist Episcopal Church in America as the name of the Church.

On motion of J. E. Evans—

Resolved, That the law requiring lay representatives to be elected by the District Stewards, etc., be conformed to the action of this Conference on the subject of District Conferences.

J. E. Evans asked to be excused from attending and assisting in the organization of the Colored M. E. Church, South, and A. L. P. Green was appointed in his place.

On motion of W. M. Leftwich, Conference agreed to adjourn—the next session to be held at Louisville, Ky., May 1, 1874.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Paine then made an impressive address to the Conference. He said:

"Being called upon unexpectedly to close these exercises, and knowing the necessity of being brief, I would condense all that I would say in a very few words. This is the twelfth General Conference at which I have been present as a member, beginning in 1824 in Baltimore; and I confess I have never known a more pleasant and more working Con-

ference. It is the briefest Conference I have ever attended. It has been very harmonious too. The inauguration of the system of lay delegation has worked admirably, confirming our conviction that the laity can greatly aid in managing the great interests of the Church, and I hope they will return home with the impression that they are not only welcomed, but that they are felt to be an important element in our deliberations. I repeat, this has been a remarkably harmonious Conference. No great conflicts—none on principle. We have not all agreed on the polity of the Church, but there has been no want of appreciation of each other's motives.

"Brethren, God has been good to us this session. He has preserved us in safety to its close, and now let us go away looking for his blessing, and for a fresh baptism of the Holy Ghost.

"Age is creeping on many of us. We may never meet again in this great assembly. God grant that we may be useful and faithful in the performance of our duties even unto the end! Let us preserve the Constitution of our Church intact. Keep up the itinerancy; preach Christ and him crucified; retain the great truths and principles of our Church, and transmit them down to your posterity. Then, when we get up yonder, we shall be delighted to look down and see our successors carrying out the great principles of Wesleyan Methodism.

"Accept my assurance—and I speak for my colleagues also—of my respect for you, and love for you. May God go with you, and be with you and your families, and in all your work for Christ!"

Bishop Paine then offered a fervent prayer. After which the doxology was sung, the benediction pronounced by Bishop Marvin, and thus closed the Sixth Session of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

JAMES O. ANDREW,
ROBERT PAINE,
GEORGE F. PIERCE,
JOHN EARLY,
HUBBARD H. KAVANAUGH,
WILLIAM M. WIGHTMAN,
ENOCH M. MARVIN,
DAVID S. DOGGETT,
HOLLAND N. McTYEIRE,
JOHN C. KEENER.

THOMAS O. SUMMERS, *Secretary*.

JOHN S. MARTIN, }
JAMES WICKERSHAM, } *Assistant Secretaries*.
GEORGE N. LESTER, }

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EDITED BY THOMAS O. SUMMERS, D.D.

NASHVILLE, TENN.:
PUBLISHING HOUSE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH.
1874.

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| LITTLE ROCK.— <i>Clerical</i> : A. Hunter, A. R. Winfield, Cadesman Pope. <i>Lay</i> : J. L. de Yampert, S. M. McGehee..... | 5 |
| TRINITY.— <i>Clerical</i> : John H. McLean, Jacob M. Binkley, M. H. Neely. <i>Lay</i> : W. J. Clark, Wm. Howeth | 5 |
| EAST TEXAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : D. Morse, John Adams. <i>Lay</i> : L. V. Grear, W. M. Shumatte..... | 4 |
| TEXAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : R. Alexander, I. G. John, H. V. Philpott. <i>Lay</i> : J. H. Stone, J. D. Thomas, L. W. Moore..... | 6 |
| NORTH-WEST TEXAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : Thomas Sanford, Wm. G. Veal, Wm. Price, W. G. Connor. <i>Lay</i> : W. A. Fort, E. A. Martin, B. A. Philpott, J. H. Bishop | 8 |
| WEST TEXAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : B. Harris, J. G. Walker..... | 2 |
| LOS ANGELES.— <i>Clerical</i> : Abram Adams. <i>Lay</i> : F. E. Adams..... | 2 |
| PACIFIC.— <i>Clerical</i> : E. K. Miller, George Sim. <i>Lay</i> : J. W. Goad..... | 3 |
| COLUMBIA.— <i>Clerical</i> : B. R. Johnson..... | 1 |
| ILLINOIS.— <i>Clerical</i> : M. R. Jones, J. W. Wescott. <i>Lay</i> : S. S. Spurgin, J. M. A. Drake | 4 |
| Total..... | 255 |

JOURNAL
OF THE
General Conference
OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH,
MAY 1-26, 1874.

THE Seventh General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, began its session in the Public Library Hall, Louisville, Ky., Friday, May 1, 1874.

All the Bishops were present except Bishop Doggett.

The session was opened by the singing of Hymn 888,

Happy the souls to Jesus joined—

which was given out by Bishop Pierce. Bishop Marvin then led in prayer. Bishop Wightman read Psalm xlviii., and Bishop McTyeire Romans xii. Bishop Keener then gave out Hymn 625,

O Thou who camest from above—

which was sung by the Conference. Jefferson Hamilton then led in prayer.

Bishop Paine, being in the chair, called upon the Secretary of the last Conference to call the list of the Annual Conferences, and vouchers for the delegates elect were furnished.

The following delegates, being present, responded to their names, and took their seats accordingly, to wit:

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Samuel Regester, John S. Martin, Samuel Rogers, Alpheus W. Wilson, Nelson Head, J. Hoffman Waugh, Wm. G. Coe. *Lay*: Wm. R. Denny, T. Jefferson Magruder,

Charles Shipley, Wm. Milnes, jr., W. Peyton Conway, George W. Washington, Jacob Mohler.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Peter A. Peterson.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: W. Downtain, T. S. Wade. *Lay*: R. S. Bickel.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: R. N. Price, C. Long, E. E. Wiley, J. M. McTeer, J. S. Kennedy. *Lay*: J. W. Gaut, W. W. Stringfield, John W. Paulett, F. W. Earnest.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: B. Craven, W. H. Bobbitt, W. S. Black, N. H. D. Wilson, L. S. Burkhead, S. D. Adams. *Lay*: T. M. Jones, F. C. Robbins, T. C. Smith.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. M. Shipp, F. M. Kennedy, H. A. C. Walker, W. H. Fleming, J. W. Kelly, S. H. Browne. *Lay*: S. Bobo, J. H. Kinsler, A. A. Gilbert, S. A. Nelson, F. A. Connor.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. G. Haygood, W. H. Potter, J. E. Evans, W. F. Cook. *Lay*: L. D. Palmer, C. P. Crawford, G. M. Nolan, J. B. Hunnicutt, T. M. Meriwether.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Lovick Pierce, J. S. Key, J. W. Hinton, Samuel Anthony, J. O. A. Clark. *Lay*: B. M. Overby, W. H. Ellison, R. W. Lovett.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: S. Woodbery, T. W. Moore. *Lay*: J. F. White, T. W. Carter.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Thomas O. Summers, W. A. McCarty, M. S. Andrews, J. Hamilton, W. Shapard. *Lay*: J. G. Motley.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Anson West, J. W. Whitten, J. M. Boland, J. D. Anthony, W. R. Kirk. *Lay*: N. T. Lupton, R. A. Hardaway, M. K. Taylor.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Linus Parker, John Pipes.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: H. H. Montgomery, J. T. Heard. *Lay*: Thomas Christian.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: P. Tuggle, W. P. Barton, T. Y. Ramsey, A. C. Allen. *Lay*: O. J. Moore, W. E. Tomlinson.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: T. L. Boswell, S. W. Moore, W. C. Johnson, W. T. Harris, John Moss. *Lay*: Milton Brown, W. H. Armstrong.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. B. McFerrin, J. W. Hanner, sr., A. L. P. Green, R. A. Young, Joseph B. West, R. P. Ransom, W. Burr, F. E. Pitts. *Lay*: T. M. N. Jones, J. M. Sharpe.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: R. Hiner, M. Evans, C. W.

Miller, J. W. Fitch. *Lay*: W. B. Winslow, J. R. Moss, J. R. Beckley, Reserve in place of W. M. Leathers.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Thomas Bottomley, A. H. Redford, G. H. Hayes, Timothy C. Frogge, Edmund W. Sehon. *Lay*: James S. Lithgow, A. S. Walker, Robert Browder, John S. Geiger, Charles F. Harvey, Reserve in place of Willis B. Machen.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. T. Scruggs, W. M. Leftwich. *Lay*: Trusten Polk, N. Handy, Reserve in place of J. C. Moore.

WEST ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: G. M. Winton, N. Scarritt, M. M. Pugh, J. Tillery. *Lay*: John E. Ryland, G. M. Jones, T. P. Cobb.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: C. I. Vandeventer, W. M. Rush, J. H. Pritchett, J. D. Vincil, H. A. Bourland. *Lay*: J. C. Wills, J. L. Davis, D. K. Pittman.

WESTERN CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: D. C. O'Howell, A. A. Morrison. *Lay*: J. H. Bradford, T. Metcalf.

INDIAN MISSION CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. Harrell, J. H. Walker. *Lay*: G. B. Hester, J. F. Thompson.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: F. M. Paine, I. L. Burrow. *Lay*: J. H. Mann.

WHITE RIVER CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: G. A. Dannelly, James Mackey. *Lay*: James Wickersham.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. Hunter, A. R. Winfield, Cadesman Pope. *Lay*: S. M. McGehee.

TRINITY CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: John H. McLean, J. M. Binkley, M. H. Neely. *Lay*: W. J. Clark, W. Howeth.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: D. Morse, J. Adams. *Lay*: W. M. Shumatte, Reserve in place of J. H. Reagan.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: R. Alexander, I. G. John, H. V. Philpott. *Lay*: J. H. Stone.

NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Thomas Stanford, W. G. Veal, Wm. Price, W. G. Connor. *Lay*: W. A. Fort, E. A. Martin, B. A. Philpott, J. H. Bishop.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Buckner Harris, James G. Walker.

LOS ANGELES CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Abram Adams. *Lay*: F. E. Adams.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: E. K. Miller, George Sim.

COLUMBIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: B. R. Johnson.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: M. R. Jones. *Lay*: S. Spurgin, J. M. A. Drake.

There were 194 members present, constituting more than a quorum

On motion of A. L. P. Green, Thomas O. Summers, of the Alabama Conference, was chosen Secretary, who nominated John S. Martin, of the Baltimore Conference, A. G. Haygood, of the North Georgia Conference, F. M. Kennedy, of the South Carolina Conference, as Assistant Secretaries. J. S. Martin declined; the others were elected.

E. W. Sehon, on behalf of the Methodist Churches in Louisville, tendered the use of Library Hall to the Conference during the present session. He also stated that postal arrangements and telegraph facilities were in the hall, with paper, stationery, and all other conveniences for the Conference; extending to the members a hearty welcome to the hearts and homes of the citizens—all of which was gratefully recognized by the Conference.

On motion of E. W. Sehon, the hour of meeting was fixed at 9 A.M., and the hour of adjournment at 12:30 P.M.

On motion of W. M. Leftwich, a special committee of three was appointed to report to-morrow, on the Rules of Order. The Chair appointed P. A. Peterson, W. M. Leftwich, J. Hamilton, on said committee.

On motion of A. L. P. Green, the Presiding Elder and preachers of the Louisville District were appointed a Committee on Public Worship.

J. Hamilton moved that the following Standing Committees, to consist of one member from each Annual Conference, each delegation to appoint its own members on said committees, be ordered:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. On Episcopacy. | 5. On Missions. |
| 2. On Itinerancy. | 6. On Revisal. |
| 3. On Books and Periodicals. | 7. On Sunday-schools. |
| 4. On Boundaries. | 8. On Education. |
| 9. On Finance. | |

N. H. D. Wilson moved to amend, by appointing two members to each committee, leaving the delegations to make their own selections, whether lay or clerical.

On motion of A. A. Gilbert, the amendment was laid on the table; and the original motion was carried.

On motion of the Secretary,

Resolved, That a Committee on Introductions be appointed by the Chair, to be constituted of two ministers and one layman, whose duty it shall be to attend to the introduction of visitors to the Conference.

The Chair appointed J. A. Duncan, J. E. Evans, and S. Bobo, on said committee.

On motion of W. M. Rush, the Conference adjourned, with the benediction by the Bishop.

Saturday Morning, May 2, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Paine in the chair.

L. M. Lee conducted divine service, by reading a part of Gal. vi., singing Hymn 209,

Come, Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire—

and offering prayer.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop Pierce took the chair.

Bishop Doggett appeared in the Conference room, and took his seat on the platform.

The following delegates, who were not present yesterday, responded to their names, and took their seats, to wit:

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Leroy M. Lee, John E. Edwards, Lemuel S. Reed, John C. Granbery. *Lay*: F. H. Smith, Richard Pollard, Wm. Grant.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: W. G. E. Cunnyingham. *Lay*: R. W. Jones, A. W. Boyd, Reserve in place of H. S. Bowen.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: E. J. Lilly, John W. Hays.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: H. J. Adams, L. J. Davies, Reserve in place of Jesse Boring, Wm. J. Scott, Reserve in place of E. W. Speer. *Lay*: J. M. Beall.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: James Jackson.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: Richard H. Powell.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: Joseph H. Johnson.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Alexander E. Goodwyn.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: C. G. Andrews, H. F. Johnson, W. E. M. Linfield. *Lay*: James E. Jagers.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: John J. Wheat. *Lay*: H. W. Foote, Richard C. Clark.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: R. J. Morgan, H. C. Bailey, Reserve in place of A. R. Boon.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: Charles G. Smith.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: Rufus E. Anderson.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: J. L. de Yampert.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: J. W. Goad.

P. A. Peterson, from the Special Committee on Rules of Order, presented the report of said committee, which was read.

A motion of N. H. D. Wilson, to change the notation of the rules, did not prevail.

The report of the committee was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON RULES OF ORDER.

The Committee appointed to report Rules of Order for the government of this General Conference, beg leave to recommend the adoption of the Rules of Order of the General Conference of 1870, as printed in Bishop McTyeire's *Manual of the Discipline*, with the change of the time of adjournment, as already made by order of the Conference, and with the following additional rules, to be numbered 6 and 7, respectively:

6. A member presenting any petition, memorial, or other paper which should go to a standing committee, shall name the committee to which he would have it referred, and if there be no objection, it shall be so referred without a vote.

7. Committees recommending changes of the Discipline, shall recite not only the page, chapter, and section proposed to be amended, but also the paragraph as amended.

P. A. PETERSON,
W. M. LEFTWICH,
JEFF. HAMILTON.

Louisville, Ky., May 2, 1874.

The Rules, as amended, are as follows:

RULES OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF 1874.

1. The Conference shall meet at nine o'clock A.M., and adjourn at half-past twelve P.M., but may alter the times of meeting and adjournment at their discretion.

2. The President shall take the chair precisely at the hour to which the Conference stood adjourned, and cause the same to be opened by reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer; and, on the appearance of a quorum, shall have the journals of the preceding day read and approved, when the business of the Conference shall proceed in the following order, viz.:

- (1) Reports of the standing committees.
- (2) Reports of the select committees.
- (3) Petitions, memorials, and appeals.

3. The President shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Conference; but in case of such appeal, the question shall be taken without debate.

4. He shall appoint all committees, not otherwise specially ordered by the Conference; but any member may decline serving on more than one committee at the same time.

5. All motions and resolutions introduced by any member shall be reduced to writing, if the President, Secretary, or any two members request it.

6. A member presenting any petition, memorial, or other paper which should go to a standing committee, shall name the committee to which he would have it referred, and if there be no objection, it shall be so referred without a vote.

7. Committees recommending changes of the Discipline shall recite not only the page, chapter, and section proposed to be amended, but also the paragraph as amended.

8. When a motion or resolution is made and seconded, or a report presented, and is read by the Secretary, or stated by the President, it shall be deemed in possession of the Conference; but any motion or resolution may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before decision or amendment.

9. No new motion or resolution shall be made until the one under consideration is disposed of, which may be done by adoption or rejection, unless one of the following motions should intervene, which motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are placed, viz.: Indefinite postponement, laying on the table, reference to a committee, postponement to a given time, amendment or a substitute: *provided* that a motion to lay on the table shall be put without debate.

10. No member shall be interrupted when speaking, except by the President, to call him to order when he departs from the question, or uses personalities or disrespectful language; but any member may call the attention of the President to the subject when he deems a speaker out of order, and any member may explain if he thinks himself misrepresented.

11. When any member is about to speak in debate, or to deliver any matter to the Conference, he shall rise from his seat and respectfully address himself to the President.

12. No person shall speak more than twice on the same question, nor more than fifteen minutes at one time, without leave of the Conference; nor shall any person speak more than once until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

13. When any motion or resolution shall have passed, it shall be in order for any member who voted in the majority to move for a reconsideration.

14. No member shall absent himself from the service of the Conference without leave, unless he be sick or unable to attend.

15. No member shall be allowed to vote on any question who is not within the bar at the time when such question is put by the President, except by leave of the Conference, when such member has been necessarily absent.

16. Every member who shall be within the bar at the time the question is put shall give his vote unless the Conference, for special reasons, excuse him.

17. No resolution altering or rescinding any rule of discipline shall be adopted until it shall have been at least one day in the possession of the Conference.

18. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate.

19. Whenever a member shall move that "the question shall now be put," the vote on such motion shall be taken without debate; and if two-thirds of the members voting shall sustain the call, the President shall put the question then pending, and the vote shall be taken immediately, without debate; and if the pending question shall be an amendment or a substitute, and shall be rejected, the President shall then put the main question, and the vote shall be taken on that, without debate.

The following resolution was then presented, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That whenever a change in the Discipline shall be proposed, the section, chapter, or paragraph in which it occurs, and also the proposed change, shall be printed in the Daily Advocate.

P. A. PETERSON,

JEFF. HAMILTON.

The following resolution was then presented, read, and not adopted:

Resolved, That any member presenting a resolution, which has been seconded, calling for the action of the Conference, shall be allowed time to present his reasons for invoking such action: *provided* he shall not occupy more than five minutes, unless the time is extended by the Conference.

F. W. EARNEST,

L. M. LEE.

J. D. Vincil, of the Missouri Conference, was nominated by the Secretary, as Assistant Secretary, and the nomination was confirmed.

The members of the Standing Committees were then reported by the several delegations. (See pages 380, 381.)

Bishop Paine then presented the Address of the British Conference to this General Conference, with an accompanying letter of the Secretary of the British Conference, which was read, and, on motion of L. M. Lee, was referred to a special committee of seven.

The Bishop announced the following as members of said committee: J. Hamilton, A. M. Shipp, J. C. Wills, A. Hunter, L. M. Lee, Trusten Polk, James Jackson.

The Address and accompanying Letter are as follows:

13 LEIGH ROAD, Highbury Park, }
N. LONDON, April 11, 1874. }

MY DEAR SIR:—I have great pleasure in sending to you the accompanying Address of our last Conference.

I hope and pray that your Conference may be distinguished by much of the Divine blessing.

I should be glad of a line to assure me of the safe arrival of the Address.

With much Christian regard, my dear sir, Yours truly,

GERVASE SMITH.

The Rev. Dr. Paine, or Senior Bishop in attendance at the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

ADDRESS

Of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of Great Britain to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN:—Having learned that your General Conference is to meet before our next Annual Assembly, we have resolved to address you our fraternal greetings.

In so doing we cannot overlook the fact that so many years have elapsed since the commencement of your separate existence as a Church without our having sought intercommunion with you. The causes existing at the time, from which this arose, have now passed away. As to the institution of slavery, in general, and in particular as to the forms in which it formerly existed in our own colonies, and in your country, our opinions remain the same as they ever were, and as they have often been deliberately expressed. This fact makes us deeply grateful that at length in your country, as in our own empire, the evil has been entirely, and as we devoutly trust, finally, done away. It is to us a cause of thankfulness that nothing exists to prevent official intercourse between your General Conference and our own. And we pray that both Churches, and both countries, may be firmly united, within themselves by concord, and to one another by amity.

We believe that you with us firmly hold the great Christian truths, which we have both received in common, and that you are striving to spread living religion among your own people. For ourselves, we trust that we have not ceased to "hold fast the form of sound words" which has been handed down to us. In the presence of a subtle skepticism on the one hand, and, of an increasingly audacious sacerdotalism on the other, it is our duty, and we trust, it is our endeavor, to "earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the saints." Our country is being blessed at this time with unwonted visitations of the Divine Spirit; slumbering Churches have been aroused; apathy has been rebuked; and we live in expectation of yet better days.

We are thankful to be able to report to you that our own Churches are in a state of general tranquillity, and are not without signs of spiritual prosperity. The number of members meeting in class has not increased rapidly during the last few years, and the almost stationary character of the returns has been to us a cause of anxiety.

On the other hand, our congregations and schools have been steadily increasing; the amount of money raised for the purpose of erecting new and more commodious places of worship, has been beyond all former precedent; home missions and day school education have also been extended, and the cause of Foreign Missions receives increasing support. Our three Theological Colleges are filled with a fairly adequate supply of approved candidates for the ministry; our colleges for the training of school-masters and mistresses, and our other connectional educational institutions, yield us upon the whole great satisfaction. Beyond these islands the work has spread with a rapidity commensurate with the growth of the British Colonies. Since we last communicated with you, an affiliated Conference has been formed in Australia, which is now carrying forward evangelical work, with vigor and success in that Continent, and in various groups of Islands in Polynesia; a Conference has been formed in France and Switzerland; while by a friendly arrangement just concluded, the Canada Conference, hitherto affiliated to our own, has become financially and ecclesiastically independent.

For the present we find it best to continue together as one Conference in Great Britain. The last returns showed that there were (without including Ireland, but including foreign missions), 1,744 ordained ministers, and 314 probationers, in connection with the British Conference, and 422,171 Church-members, besides 28,228 on trial for membership. The other Methodist bodies in England are, in proportion to the parent body, much more considerable than is the case in your country. With these, although we do not see our way to

organized union, our relations are of an increasingly friendly character; indeed, toward all who hold the Head, even Christ, it is our desire, as we are persuaded it is yours, to manifest always the kind and catholic spirit of primitive Methodism. Our enemies are not our Christian brethren, but sin and the powers of darkness.

And now, beloved and honored brethren, we beg that you will accept this our salutation in the Lord. We pray that the great Master may be present with you throughout the session of your General Conference; that your Churches may be blessed with increase of holiness, and enlarged through the conversion of multitudes of sinners; that the children of your people may follow in the steps of their godly fathers; that a succession of faithful men may continue to be raised up among you, who shall not "cease to teach and preach Christ." We shall rejoice to hear of your welfare, and to receive, either by deputation or otherwise, information as to your affairs.

Signed, on behalf, and by order of the Conference.

GEORGE T. PERKS, President.

GERVASE SMITH, Secretary.

A communication from J. W. Lambuth, Missionary to China, was read and referred to the Committee on Missions.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee on the Bible Cause, and one on the subject of Temperance, be added to the Standing Committees of this Conference, to be constituted in the same manner as the other Standing Committees of the Conference.

J. E. EVANS,

C. P. CRAWFORD.

An invitation was extended to the Conference to visit the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home. On motion of P. A. Peterson, thanks were tendered the directors.

The Book Agent presented his Quadrennial Exhibit, which was read and referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

The Report of the Book Committee was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

The Secretary of the Board of Missions presented his Report, which was referred to the Committee on Missions.

On motion of W. M. Rush, L. M. Lee was appointed on the Committee on Introductions, in place of J. A. Duncan, who had not arrived.

The Conference then adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Monday Morning, May 4, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Pierce in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by J. B. McFerrin.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Kavanaugh took the chair.

The following delegates appeared and took their seats:

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: W. W. Bennett. *Lay*: Joseph E. Brodwater.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: J. Harvey Brigham.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: James D. Thomas.

The following changes were made in the Standing Committees:

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—J. H. Brigham on the Committee on Education in place of A. E. Goodwyn.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—R. E. Anderson in place of D. K. Pittman on the Committee on Boundaries; and D. K. Pittman in place of R. E. Anderson on the Committee on Finance.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—F. M. Paine in place of J. H. Mann on the Committee on Itinerancy; and J. H. Mann in place of F. M. Paine on the Committee on Finance.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—J. L. de Yampert in place of W. T. Crouch on the Committee on Sunday schools; and W. T. Crouch in place of J. L. de Yampert on the Committee on Education.

WHITE RIVER CONFERENCE.—James Mackey in place of James H. Wickersham on the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—R. Alexander in place of H. V. Philpott on the Committee on Boundaries; and J. D. Thomas in place of L. W. Moore on the Committee on Finance.

On motion of A. H. Redford, the bar was fixed at the outer edge of the fourth window.

An invitation from Dr. J. R. Buchanan, to attend a Lecture on Education to-night, in this hall, was received and read, and, on motion of E. W. Schon, was accepted.

The following communication was presented by Bishop Paine, and read:

MAYOR'S OFFICE, LOUISVILLE, KY., May 4, 1874.

To the Presiding Officer of the General Conference:

REVEREND SIR:—It affords me much pleasure to transmit herewith a certified copy of a resolution unanimously adopted by the Honorable

General Council, tendering the freedom of the city to the Delegates to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

While conferring a privilege, where a right already exists, may, be considered by some as a most empty compliment, this action of the Council is intended as an evidence of the honor and pride shared in alike by all of our citizens, that Louisville should have been selected as the place where so large and influential a convention should meet upon a question so all-important as the advancement of religion. Devoutly trusting that the labors of the Conference may be most thoroughly and successfully accomplished, and with best wishes for the spiritual and worldly prosperity of each and every delegate,

I am, Reverend Sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

CHARLES D. JACOB, Mayor.

Resolved, By the General Council of the City of Louisville, that in accordance with the recommendations in the message of His Honor, the Mayor, of this date, calling the attention of the General Council to the fact that there will assemble in our city one of the largest, most influential, and intelligent bodies of men that have honored Louisville with their presence—ministers of the gospel, statesmen, lawyers, doctors, merchants, etc.—the freedom of the city is hereby granted to the members of said assembly; and that His Honor, the Mayor, be requested to communicate the same to said body.

Approved May 1, 1874, by

CHARLES D. JACOB, Mayor.

Attest copy: J. M. WOMACK, Clerk.

On motion of A. L. P. Green, the courtesy thus handsomely extended to this General Conference, was accepted, by a rising vote—the communication was ordered to be printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate*; and the Secretary was instructed to respond to the same.

Bishop Paine presented a communication respecting the claims of the Publishing House on the United States Government, which, on motion of J. B. McFerrin, was referred to a select committee of seven. The Chair announced the following as members of said committee: James Jackson, Thomas Christian, W. D. Winslow, W. Milnes, jr., B. Craven, R. Browder, W. M. Rush.

The Conferences were then called, and the members of the Committees on Temperance and on the Bible Cause were announced; also the names of the Chairmen of the standing committees, as follows, in the corrected table:

STANDING COMMITTEES.

| CONFERENCES. | EPISCOPACY. | ITINERANCY. | BOUNDARIES. |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Baltimore, | S. Regester, | J. S. Martin, | W. P. Conway, |
| Virginia, | L. M. Lee, | John E. Edwards, | L. S. Reed, |
| Western Virginia, | T. S. Wade, | W. Downtain, | T. S. Wade, |
| Holston, | E. E. Wiley, | C. Long, | W. W. Stringfield, |
| North Carolina, | B. Craven, | N. H. D. Wilson, | S. D. Adams, |
| South Carolina, | W. H. Fleming, | S. Bobo, | S. H. Browne, |
| North Georgia, | J. E. Evans, | W. F. Cook, | H. J. Adams, |
| South Georgia, | J. S. Key, | J. O. A. Clark, | S. Anthony, |
| Florida, | S. Woodbery, | T. W. Moore, | T. W. Carter, |
| Alabama, | J. Hamilton, | W. A. McCarty, | A. A. Coleman, |
| North Alabama, | A. West, | J. M. Boland, | J. D. Anthony, |
| Louisiana, | John Pipes, | L. Parker, | John Pipes, |
| Mississippi, | J. T. Heard, | C. G. Andrews, | J. H. Thompson, |
| North Mississippi, | W. P. Barton, | A. C. Allen, | R. C. Clark, |
| Memphis, | T. L. Boswell, | W. T. Harris, | John Moss, |
| Tennessee, | R. A. Young, | R. P. Ransom, | T. M. N. Jones, |
| Kentucky, | R. Hiner, | M. Evans, | J. W. Fitch, |
| Louisville, | A. H. Redford, | T. Bottomley, | T. C. Frogge, |
| St. Louis, | T. Polk, | A. T. Seruggs, | W. M. Leftwich, |
| West St. Louis, | N. Scarritt, | G. M. Winton, | J. Tillery, |
| Missouri, | C. I. Vandeventer, | J. D. Vincell, | R. E. Anderson, |
| Western, | A. A. Morrison, | D. C. O'Howell, | A. A. Morrison, |
| Indian Mission, | J. Harrell, | J. G. Walker, | J. F. Thompson, |
| Arkansas, | I. L. Burrow, | F. M. Paine, | J. H. Mann, |
| White River, | G. A. Dannelly, | J. Wickersham, | James Mackey, |
| Little Rock, | A. Hunter, | C. Pope, | A. Hunter, |
| Trinity, | J. M. Binkley, | M. H. Neely, | J. H. McLean, |
| East Texas, | D. Morse, | John Adams, | D. Morse, |
| Texas, | R. Alexander, | H. V. Philpott, | R. Alexander, |
| North-west Texas, | T. Stanford, | W. Price, | B. A. Philpott, |
| West Texas, | B. Harris, | J. H. Walker, | J. G. Walker, |
| Los Angeles, | A. Adams, | F. E. Adams, | F. E. Adams, |
| Pacific, | E. K. Miller, | George Sim, | George Sim, |
| Columbia, | B. R. Johnson, | B. R. Johnson, | B. R. Johnson, |
| Illinois, | J. W. Wescott, | S. S. Spurgin, | J. M. A. Drake, |
| Chairmen, | L. M. Lee. | J. E. Edwards. | R. Alexander. |

| CONFERENCES. | MISSIONS. | SUNDAY-SCHOOLS. | EDUCATION. |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Baltimore, | C. Shipley, | T. J. Magruder, | N. Head, |
| Virginia, | D'Arcy Paul, | William Grant, | F. H. Smith, |
| Western Virginia, | R. S. Bickle, | R. S. Bickle, | T. S. Wade, |
| Holston, | W. G. E. Cunningham, | F. W. Earnest, | T. S. Kennedy, |
| North Carolina, | L. S. Burkhead, | T. C. Smith, | T. M. Jones, |
| South Carolina, | J. W. Kelly, | S. A. Nelson, | A. M. Shipp, |
| North Georgia, | W. H. Potter, | George M. Nolan, | J. B. Hummcutt, |
| South Georgia, | R. W. Lovett, | B. M. Overby, | J. O. A. Clark, |
| Florida, | S. Woodbery, | T. W. Carter, | T. W. Moore, |
| Alabama, | M. S. Andrews, | J. G. Motley, | R. H. Powell, |
| North Alabama, | W. R. Kirk, | M. K. Taylor, | N. T. Lupton, |
| Louisiana, | A. E. Goodwyn, | L. Parker, | J. H. Brigham, |
| Mississippi, | A. G. Mayers, | Thomas Christian, | H. F. Johnson, |
| North Mississippi, | W. E. Tomlinson, | H. W. Foote, | J. J. Wheat, |
| Memphis, | John Moss, | W. H. Armstrong, | R. J. Morgan, |
| Tennessee, | F. E. Pitts, | C. G. Smith, | J. B. West, |
| Kentucky, | J. R. Beckley, | J. R. Moss, | W. M. Leathers, |
| Louisville, | E. W. Sehon, | Robert Browder, | J. S. Geiger, |
| St. Louis, | N. Handy, | N. Handy, | T. Polk, |
| West St. Louis, | G. M. Jones, | John E. Ryland, | N. Scarritt, |
| Missouri, | J. H. Pritchett, | J. L. Davis, | J. C. Wills, |
| Western, | Thomas Metcalfe, | Thomas Metcalfe, | J. H. Bradford, |
| Indian Mission, | J. Harrell, | G. B. Hester, | J. F. Thompson, |
| Arkansas, | J. H. Mann, | I. L. Burrow, | I. L. Burrow, |
| White River, | G. A. Dannelly, | James Wickersham, | Jas. Wickersham, |
| Little Rock, | A. R. Winfield, | J. L. de Yampert, | J. L. de Yampert, |
| Trinity, | William Howeth, | M. H. Neely, | J. H. McLean, |
| East Texas, | L. V. Greer, | L. V. Greer, | John Adams, |
| Texas, | I. G. John, | J. D. Thomas, | J. A. Stone, |
| North-west Texas, | E. A. Martin, | W. G. Connor, | J. H. Bishop, |
| West Texas, | J. G. Walker, | J. G. Walker, | B. Harris, |
| Los Angeles, | A. Adams, | F. E. Adams, | A. Adams, |
| Pacific, | E. K. Miller, | J. W. Goad, | J. W. Goad, |
| Columbia, | B. R. Johnson, | B. R. Johnson, | B. R. Johnson, |
| Illinois, | M. R. Jones, | S. S. Spurgin, | J. M. A. Drake, |
| Chairmen, | W. G. E. Cunningham. | T. J. Magruder. | Truett Polk. |

| CONFERENCES. | BOOKS AND PERIODICALS. | REVISAL. | FINANCE. |
|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Baltimore, | W. G. Coe, | S. Rodgers, | W. Milnes, |
| Virginia, | W. W. Bennett, | P. A. Peterson, | R. Pollard, |
| Western Virginia, | R. S. Bickel, | W. Downtain, | W. Downtain, |
| Holston, | R. N. Price, | J. McTeer, | J. W. Gaut, |
| North Carolina, | W. S. Black, | W. H. Bobbitt, | F. C. Robbins, |
| South Carolina, | J. H. Kinsler, | H. A. C. Walker, | A. A. Gilbert, |
| North Georgia, | W. J. Scott, | L. D. Palmer, | T. M. Meriwether, |
| South Georgia, | W. H. Ellison, | J. W. Hinton, | James Jackson, |
| Florida, | J. F. White, | T. W. Moore, | J. F. White, |
| Alabama, | J. T. S. Kimbrough, | W. Shapard, | H. A. Stollenwerck, |
| North Alabama, | R. A. Hardaway, | J. W. Whitten, | J. H. Johnson, |
| Louisiana, | A. E. Goodwyn, | John Pipes, | J. H. Brigham, |
| Mississippi, | H. H. Montgomery, | W. E. M. Linfield, | J. E. Jagers, |
| North Mississippi, | P. Tuggle, | T. Y. Ramsey, | O. J. Moore, |
| Memphis, | W. C. Johnson, | S. W. Moore, | Milton Brown, |
| Tennessee, | A. L. P. Green, | John W. Hanner, | J. M. Sharpe, |
| Kentucky, | C. W. Miller, | C. W. Miller, | W. B. Winslow, |
| Louisville, | J. S. Lithgow, | G. H. Hayes, | C. F. Harvey, |
| St. Louis, | W. M. Leftwich, | A. T. Scruggs, | T. Polk, |
| West St. Louis, | J. P. Strother, | M. M. Pugh, | T. P. Cobb, |
| Missouri, | W. M. Bush, | H. A. Bourland, | D. K. Pittman, |
| Western, | J. H. Bradford, | D. C. O'Howell, | D. C. O'Howell, |
| Indian Mission, | J. H. Walker, | G. B. Hester, | G. B. Hester, |
| Arkansas, | I. L. Burrow, | F. M. Paine, | J. H. Mann, |
| White River, | James Mackey, | G. A. Dannelly, | G. A. Dannelly, |
| Little Rock, | C. Pope, | A. R. Winfield, | S. M. McGehee, |
| Trinity, | W. J. Clark, | J. M. Binkley, | W. J. Clark, |
| East Texas, | W. M. Shumatte, | John Adams, | W. M. Shumatte, |
| Texas, | I. G. John, | H. V. Philpott, | J. D. Thomas, |
| North-west Texas, | W. G. Veal, | W. G. Veal, | W. A. Fort, |
| West Texas, | B. Harris, | B. Harris, | B. Harris, |
| Los Angeles, | A. Adams, | A. Adams, | F. E. Adams, |
| Pacific, | J. W. Goad, | George Sim, | E. K. Miller, |
| Columbia, | B. R. Johnson, | B. R. Johnson, | B. R. Johnson, |
| Illinois, | J. M. A. Drake, | M. R. Jones, | J. W. Wescott, |
| Chairmen, | W. C. Johnson. | John W. Hanner. | Milton Brown. |

| CONFERENCES. | TEMPERANCE. | BIBLE CAUSE. |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Baltimore, | G. W. Washington, | W. P. Denny, |
| Virginia, | J. E. Brodwater, | J. C. Granbery, |
| Western Virginia, | R. S. Bickel, | W. Downtain, |
| Holston, | J. W. Paulette, | R. W. Jones, |
| North Carolina, | E. J. Lilly, | J. A. W. Hays, |
| South Carolina, | F. A. Connor, | A. E. Williams, |
| North Georgia, | C. P. Crawford, | J. M. Beall, |
| South Georgia, | James Jackson, | Lovick Pierce, |
| Florida, | T. W. Carter, | J. F. White, |
| Alabama, | W. A. McCarty, | R. H. Powell, |
| North Alabama, | J. D. Anthony, | J. W. Whitten, |
| Louisiana, | John Pipes, | W. H. Foster, ³ |
| Mississippi, | H. F. Johnson, | J. T. Heard, |
| North Mississippi, | J. J. Wheat, | H. W. Foote, |
| Memphis, | S. W. Moore, | H. C. Bailey, |
| Tennessee, | J. B. McFerrin, | William Burr, |
| Kentucky, | W. B. Winslow, | R. Hiner, |
| Louisville, | A. S. Walker, | John S. Geiger, |
| St. Louis, | W. M. Leftwich, | A. T. Scruggs, |
| West St. Louis, | M. M. Pugh, | G. M. Winton, |
| Missouri, | J. L. Davis, | A. Vories, |
| Western, | J. H. Bradford, | A. A. Morrison, |
| Indian Mission, | J. H. Walker, | J. Harrell, |
| Arkansas, | I. L. Burrow, | F. M. Paine, |
| White River, | G. A. Dannelly, | James Mackey, |
| Little Rock, | S. M. McGehee, | W. T. Crouch, |
| Trinity, | M. H. Neely, | William Howeth, |
| East Texas, | L. V. Greer, | W. M. Shumatte, |
| Texas, | J. H. Stone, | J. D. Thomas, |
| North-west Texas, | W. Price, | W. G. Connor, |
| West Texas, | B. Harris, | J. G. Walker, |
| Los Angeles, | F. E. Adams, | A. Adams, |
| Pacific, | George Sim, | E. K. Miller, |
| Columbia, | B. R. Johnson, | B. R. Johnson, |
| Illinois, | S. S. Spurgin, | J. W. Wescott, |
| Chairmen, | J. B. McFerrin. | R. Hiner. |

* W. H. Foster was not in attendance, and no one was put in his place.

The following resolution was offered, read, and not adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the Chair, to whom shall be referred all proposals of change in the Ritual of the Church.

H. V. PHILPOTT,

J. D. THOMAS.

The Address of the Bishops was then read by Bishop Pierce, as follows:

ADDRESS OF THE BISHOPS.

BELOVED BRETHREN:—With cordial affection we greet you in the name of the great Head of the Church, Jesus Christ our Lord.

We have completed another quadrennial term of our Church-history. With devout thanksgiving to God, we report great tranquillity in all our borders. Peace reigns—not the peace of stagnation, indifference, and moral death, but of unity, contentment, and brotherly love. While the world is all astir with advancing thought, great enterprises, and momentous events, social, political, and ecclesiastical, our preachers abide steadfast in Wesleyan theology, and our people give to the truth a reverent welcome. There is no agitation as to doctrine or to discipline, to disturb the quiet of our Zion. This state of things is largely due to the broad liberality of our system, giving full range to thought and expression, and thus removing the provocation to dissent and resistance by the consciousness of a recognized freedom. Accepting with hearty faith and strong affection the peculiar and distinctive principles and methods of our economy, the only question now under discussion among us is, How to give them the greatest efficiency and secure the largest and best results. To you, the delegates of the Conferences and the people, the whole Church looks for the wisdom which shall elaborate and embody in appropriate legislation all the changes needful for the consummation of her wishes and her hopes.

Realizing, as doubtless you do, your responsibilities, we trust that you will address yourselves to the work before you, by invoking that inspiration of the Almighty which giveth understanding, and cherish alike the feeling of dependence and the spirit of devotion. The work to be done is of vital importance at the present juncture, but the points are definite and few in number. Informed as you are with regard to the wants of the Church and the views of our membership, a little calm thought—the interchange of ideas—mutual consultation and discussion, will lead to sound and safe conclusions. But, brethren, while deliberate and pains-taking, strive to economize time. The Church must needs suffer by the absence of her pastors. The longer the time,

the greater the damage. The revival spirit is abroad. God is visiting the Churches. Jesus is passing by. The opportunity ought not to be lost. Be prompt. Have a mind to work. Stick to the main points—the living issues. Let us all return as early as may be, to reap the fields now ripening for the sickle of the husbandmen.

We beg to suggest a few things which demand your earnest, careful attention. First of all we mention our Missionary organization. The Parent Board and the Secretary will report to you the operations of the last four years. One or both will likely recommend material changes, suggested by the practical working of the present plan. Of the propriety of these changes and the reasons assigned for them, we leave you to judge. We will not attempt to bias or forestall your action by an official opinion. It is enough for us to invoke a careful review of the whole subject, both as to duty and policy. We deem it proper to say, however, that the resolutions of the Board at their last annual meeting, proposing to ask at your hands radical changes in the Missionary Constitution, have been strongly disapproved in several of the Conferences, and the discussion here will probably turn upon some modification of the present plan, or the readjustment of this great question on a new basis.

The working and results of our Missionary organization do not, in our judgment, meet the demand of our times or the responsibility that rests upon us as a Church of the Lord Jesus Christ. We refer especially to foreign fields. Whether this be due to the plans adopted or to the manner in which they have been carried out, we respectfully refer to your consideration.

The spirit of missions is vital to the very existence of the Church. It may live as an organization, by force of numbers, money, and social influences, but cannot be a fruitful branch of the living Vine, unless the sap of missionary life circulates through it, maintaining health and vigor, and making it the medium of extension to others. Our people are not deficient in any discouraging sense of right views and feelings on this subject, but our methods have never commanded their entire confidence and approval. The point of friction and of weakness lies in the comparative claims of the domestic and foreign work. While slavery existed we had a factor which solved the difficulty, and the work at home harmonized in the spirit of it and the necessity of the case, with the work abroad. Now that the colored people have church-organizations of their own, and are provided with the gospel, the domestic work has largely lost its missionary feature, and the combination of it with the foreign has absorbed into the

former much of the interest which belongs more legitimately to the latter.

There *is* much to be done at home in occupying waste places—supplementing the scant resources of sparse populations, and carrying the gospel to the neglected poor of our large cities; but as providing for the dependents of our own households does not exonerate from the general obligations of charity, so attention to these local demands upon the money and labor of the Church should not abridge our interest or effort in behalf of those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. If the General Conference could provide for the home field from some other fund, it might be well. Or if they could so harmonize the two interests, domestic and foreign, as to avoid a conflict in the public mind in reference to their respective claims, then the embarrassment under which we now operate would pass away. Missionary work, distinctively so called, must be made more prominent. It ought to be disentangled from all *quasi* views and substitutes, and made to rely upon its own merits, motives, and obligations. However integral to the Church as an organization to conserve the interests of Christ's kingdom among men, and however included in the principles, genius, and plans of our holy religion, it is, nevertheless, a peculiar work in its necessities, modes, and agents. Its claims must not be diluted by considerations of effort expended in another direction, nor subordinated to any other department of duty. It should stand alone in its magnitude and grandeur. It is *the* work of the Church—her special mission. “Go ye into *all* the *world*, and *preach* the *gospel* to *every creature*.” The reflex influence of obedience and enterprise in this direction is conservative of personal piety and all local progress. A Church imbued with the spirit of missions is always spiritual, active, liberal, and aggressive. To deal with the gospel as a monopoly for home use and private ends is to defraud Christ of his inheritance in other lands, and to waste his goods by misapplication as unfaithful stewards. Adopt some plan, brethren, which will intensify the Church's sense of indebtedness to Christ and the world. Magnify the gospel by diffusion as well as embracement. Individualize the mission work. Separate it from all competition. Set it forth in the grandeur of its claim upon faith, hope, and philanthropy, an imperious duty specified by divine command, encouraged by divine promise, already vindicated by providence and grace, and destined to culminate sooner or later by gradual advancement or sudden triumph in millennial glory. Any plan, recognizing the great underlying principles of this interest, and starting from the right standpoint, which will commend itself to the

judgment of the Church as feasible in its practical working, and which can be economically administered, will command her liberality. The plan must appeal to the loyalty of the Church. There must be unbroken, serried combination. The current of benevolence in this behalf must not be wasted by side rills for local irrigation, but pour in steady volume into one reservoir for a specific use. All other claims and interests must be made to depend upon their merits for help, and not seek to live on the credit of another affiliated but independent and overmastering obligation. With these suggestions we submit the whole subject to your collective wisdom.

We are glad to report to you wonderful progress in church-building, both as to number of houses, style of architecture, and accommodations for comfort at all seasons. Consolidation of feeble societies at eligible centers has enlarged congregations, secured a more uniform administration of ordinances, given stability and permanent form to Sunday-schools, and made the arrangement of circuit work more convenient and effective. Incidental to this is the slow but steady improvement of all financial plans. Broader views of duty, more liberal assessments and better modes of collection, are prevailing. There are local exceptions to this remark, but the aggregate collections under the pressure of an unprecedented monetary collapse, demonstrate the truth of the general statement. Some of the preachers are embarrassed by short receipts, are living hard, but stand up manfully to their work, knowing that the same afflictions are pressing upon the people themselves, and persuaded that the Church will respond to their necessities when the present stringency shall be relaxed.

The subject of education, in all its branches, is entitled to your most thoughtful consideration.

The right training of children, the literature of our Sunday-school system, denominational education, are all phases of the general subject of great and increasing importance. We do not hesitate to avow that we regard the education of the young as one of the leading functions of the Church, and that she cannot abdicate in favor of the State without infidelity to her trust and irreparable damage to society. The reasons for occupying this ground which inhere in the very nature of this interest, and in the relation of children to the Church, are all intensified by the antagonisms of modern science, and the outcasting of the religious element from all the school systems fostered by State legislation. It is not ours to dispute jurisdiction with Cesar, but fully persuaded that the salt of religious truth alone can preserve education from abuse and mischievous results, we

feel that the responsibilities of the Church grow with the progress of society and the demands of the age.

It is with gratulation and thanksgiving to God, we say, the Church has made great progress in this department of duty. She has projected new enterprises on a broader basis and with higher aims as to scholastic teaching and furniture—revived institutions which were languishing and ready to die—renewed endowments lost by the revolutions of fortune, and is seeking to maintain the guardianship and sanctification of the humbler instrumentalities which lay hold upon the masses of society. We anticipate in the near future a complete system. Universities, colleges, district schools, academies, sustained by our people, and manned by our own graduates—all thoroughly equipped, a rounded plan, reaching from the lowest to the highest, and securing the safeguards of a Christian education to all the rising generation committed to our charge. We want for our young people an education which begins amid the hallowed influences of home—the cherished authority and example of the father, the tender, benignant influence of the mother, carried on in association with the Bible, prayers, and revivals, in every stage of development from the alphabet to the diploma.

In our judgment the time has come for the General Conference to make some strong deliverance as to discipline in reference to class-meetings, worldly amusements, and family religion. The great body of our people persist in believing that the Conference of 1866 abolished class-meetings, not only as a test of membership, but as a Methodist institution. Any action, therefore, recognizing it, and urging it as a social means of grace, obligatory, not under penalty of law, but in proof of fellowship, might rectify the prevailing mistake, and help to revive this time-honored and gracious instrument of good. Perhaps dividing the membership into classes, as under the old rule, but changing the form of the meeting from the catechetical (the inquisitorial, as some regard it) to the colloquial, might retain and perpetuate all that is vital to the institution.

Among our young people everywhere, especially in the towns and cities, there is a tendency to worldliness—to vain and demoralizing amusements, which demands a corrective. The subject, though plain in its general principles, is compassed about with many embarrassments. The toleration of these things by loose notions of Christian liberty, the fact that many Elms among us do not restrain their children, the loose admission of members, the incapacity of the unconverted for spiritual discernment, the long sufferance of the evil in many

cases from timid administration, all threaten the Church, adulterate her purity, and break down her authority. The silence of the Discipline, in terms, is the plea with some; expunging the paragraph in which dancing was specified among things forbidden, has been construed by others into a relaxation of law, equivalent to license. We think the rule is plain, and we know the last General Conference expressed itself strongly in condemnation of this evil. Nevertheless, the pleas are made, so that the Church is enfeebled in her remonstrance, and the preacher paralyzed in his pastoral government. Both parties look to you for relief. We hope you may be able to furnish it. You cannot make a new law, but you can define the old.

The Church is suffering grievously in her character, experience, and influence, from the very general neglect of family religion, morning and evening worship in the houses of our people. No duty can be dropped from the Christian schedule without serious loss of moral power. Indeed, such an omission unsettles the whole foundation of religious life, and jeopardizes the moral safety of every delinquent. The neglect of this great duty is not merely a personal fault, wholly indefensible, but the guilt of it is enhanced by the fact that under such a *régime* there can be no proper Christian training of children. This evil is of fearful magnitude as a fact, as an example, in itself, in its effects, and in its results. It ought not to be tolerated. We invoke the authority of the Conference, the efforts of the ministry, the coöperation of all the faithful among us, to correct it.

The District Conferences are working well—doing good. The Church is greatly indebted to them for her unity, compactness, and efficiency. They combine all the elements of usefulness and power common to the class-meeting and the camp-meeting, with some advantages over both. They are most commonly the occasions and the instruments of revivals, giving fresh impulse to the work of God in the communities where they are held, and the districts they represent. They need no increase of power, no new function, no farther legislation. They stand in their own lot, and should not trench upon the attributes and offices of any other department, and least of all upon the Quarterly Conference.

During the past four years the Bishops have been able to attend all the Annual Conferences without a single failure, besides attending a great many of the District Conferences. By the Divine blessing we propose to continue our labors on the same scale.

We regret to say the Church Conferences are a comparative failure. In the stations generally they have done well—are very useful. In the

circuits, as a rule, they have been inefficient. The fault is commonly with the preacher, who does not like them—does not know how to hold them; sometimes with the people—often with both. Time and experience may correct this order of things, and vindicate the wisdom of the institution. It seems to us to be a necessity, both to a wise pastoral oversight, a just distribution of service among the members, and an effective use and application of the resources of the Church. It might be well to give the preacher in charge larger discretion as to the manner of holding them, so that in the absence of pressing business they might be made strictly devotional.

Within the last two years our Publishing House has passed one great crisis in its history, and even now is struggling with another because of the monetary troubles of the country. It has survived both. Destroyed by fire, it has sprung from its ashes, enlarged and improved. Embarrassed by the financial panic which rests upon the country like a palsy, it has sold more of our standard books within half a year than perhaps in the last decade. The exigences of this crisis revived among our preachers a custom which prevailed among the fathers, and to which much of their success in promulgating the gospel and establishing the people in the knowledge of our doctrines was due. We mean the circulation of our books. The object of a Church Publishing House is moral, not mercantile. Books may be printed in any quantity, and of the best quality, but they fail to do good unless distributed among the people. This work can best be done by the pastors. We trust this revival of so good a work will not be spasmodic, but that it will continue and increase.

In this connection we cannot forbear to commend the management of the Sunday-school department. A new system of instruction has been constructed—a literature created satisfactory to the Church in its style, tone, and varied adaptations.

As the only distinct change in the way of legislation which we propose, we respectfully recommend the restoration of the rule which requires a preacher to travel two years before he is eligible to deacon's orders, and four years before he is ordained elder.

Since your last session two of our colleagues, Bishop James O. Andrew and Bishop John Early, have departed this life. They were venerable men, greatly beloved in the Church for their Christian virtues—ministerial and official fidelity—long and varied service. Found, as they always were, in the way of righteousness, their hoary heads were crowns of honor, the insignia of their age, authority, and worth, and all the people delighted to do them reverence. They gave the

days of the years of their youth and maturity to the active service of the Church, and then amid the infirmities of old age and the languor and distress of physical suffering, illustrated the grace of God by patient submission, by beautiful expressions of trust, and the joyous triumph of faith and hope. Let us all revere their memory, imitate their example, and, by patient continuance in well-doing, follow them to the heaven of the blessed.

Finally, brethren, remembering that the safety, usefulness, and power of the Church are not in mere organism, however compact, nor in prudential legislation, however wise or expedient, but in the spirituality of the ministry and membership, in the maintenance of sound doctrine and godly discipline, address yourselves to the task of protecting the Church we love from the corruptions of sentiment, taste, and habit, which are in the world through lust, and of restoring her to the self-denial, the moral courage, the consistent piety, which must characterize all who would be accepted witnesses of the Lord Jesus.

May the Great Head of the Church be present in all your sessions, and pour upon your counsels and conclusions the benedictions of his grace.

R. PAINE,
G. F. PIERCE,
H. H. KAVANAUGH,
W. M. WIGHTMAN,
E. M. MARVIN,
D. S. DOGGETT,
H. N. McTYEIRE,
J. C. KEENER.

The following resolutions were then presented, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the address of the Bishops be received.

Resolved, That so much of the address as refers to the cause of missions be, and it is hereby, referred to the Standing Committee on Missions; and so much as refers to education, be referred to the Committee on Education; and so much as refers to class-meetings, social amusements, family religion, District Conferences, Church Conferences, and changes in Discipline, be referred to the Committee on Revisal; and so much as refers to our publishing interests, be referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals; and so much as refers to the subject of Sunday-schools, to the Committee on Sunday-schools; and so much as refers to the deceased Bishops, to the Committee on Episcopacy; and so much as refers to the support of the

ministry, be referred to the Committee on Finance; and the remainder of the report, be referred to the Committee on Episcopacy; and that the address be printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate*.

J. E. EVANS,
A. H. REDFORD.

The following resolutions were then offered and read:

Resolved, That no proposition, from any quarter, to make any change in any part of the Discipline, shall be entertained after Saturday, May 9th.

Resolved, That no report from the Committee on Revisal shall be received by the Conference, after Saturday, May 16th.

H. A. C. WALKER,
J. S. KEY.

A. W. Wilson moved to amend, by substituting Wednesday, May 13, for Saturday, May 9.

On motion of R. H. Powell, the resolutions, as amended, were laid on the table.

The Chair then made a call for petitions and memorials, which was responded to, as follows:

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—A memorial of the Holston Conference respecting a change in the division of missionary money between the Parent and Domestic Boards. Referred to the Committee on Missions. A memorial on the election of Sunday-school superintendents. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools. A memorial on publishing the boundaries of the Annual Conferences in the Discipline. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A memorial on the election of Sunday-school superintendents. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools. A memorial on defining the relation of baptized children to the Church. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. A memorial on publishing the Discipline in cheap pamphlet form. Referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A memorial on a financial plan. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—A memorial in reference to Annual Conference Sunday-school secretaries. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. A memorial on the plan of distributing missionary funds. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—A memorial on distributing mis-

sionary funds. Referred to the Committee on Missions. A report on Wesleyan Female College, at Macon. Referred to the Committee on Education.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—A memorial on the organization of a separate German Conference. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. A memorial on representation in the District Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. A memorial on the election of Sunday-school superintendents. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools. A memorial on the General Rules. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—A memorial on the election of Sunday-school superintendents. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools. A memorial in regard to unsettled claims of pastors at the end of the Conference-year. Referred to the Committee on Finance. A memorial on the powers of District Conferences, on receiving members into the Church, on a rule concerning the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—A memorial on the records of Quarterly Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—A memorial on Church Registers and Quarterly Conference records. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—A petition requesting that trustees shall be members of the Church. A memorial on statistics and the publication of boundaries in the Discipline. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

WEST ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—A memorial on having a Secretary of Education for District Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. A change of name of said Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries. On election of Sunday-school superintendents. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—A memorial respecting the appointment of a Secretary of Education in the Quarterly Conference, and the promotion of the cause of education. Referred to the Committee on Education. A memorial on a division of said Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries. A memorial from the St. Charles District on boundaries. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries. A memorial on District Conference Secretary. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. A memorial on a specific law in regard to the making, sale, and use of intoxicating liquors. Referred to the Committee on Temperance. Two memorials on the election of Sunday-school superintendents, and the duty of Quarterly Conferences in

regard thereto. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools. A memorial on stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

WESTERN CONFERENCE.—A petition praying for the creation of a new Conference in Colorado and New Mexico. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

WHITE RIVER CONFERENCE.—A memorial on the action of the Board of Missions. Referred to the Committee on Missions. A memorial on the election of Sunday-school superintendents. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial on a change in the baptismal office. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. A memorial on the election of Sunday-school superintendents and teachers, and the relation of pastors to the Sunday-school. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools. A memorial on change of boundaries. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries. A memorial on trustees and building committees. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

LOS ANGELES CONFERENCE.—A memorial on boundaries. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

COLUMBIA CONFERENCE.—A memorial on making said Conference a Mission Conference. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

The following resolution was then presented, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That, if it be not inconvenient nor unpleasant to himself, it will gratify this General Conference if our venerable and beloved Brother, Dr. L. Pierce, will occupy a seat upon the platform, during our daily sessions.

E. E. WILEY,

A. M. SHIPP.

An invitation from Mr. E. Klauber, to the members of this General Conference, to visit his Art Gallery, and have their likenesses taken, was presented and read. The invitation was thankfully accepted.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Tuesday Morning, May 5, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Kavanaugh in the chair. Religious exercises were conducted by Thomas Bottomley.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Wightman took the chair.

The following members appeared in the Conference room, and took their seats, to wit:

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: Watson M. Cooke.

WEST ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: John P. Strother.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: W. B. Machen—whose place had been supplied by C. F. Harvey, Reserve.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: J. H. Thompson.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: J. M. Tipton.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. W. Wescott.

The following changes in the Standing Committees were made:

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—W. G. Coe was put on the Committee on Books and Periodicals, in place of J. H. Waugh.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—J. L. de Yampert in place of W. T. Crouch on the Committee on Education.

The following resolution was then presented, read, and a motion to amend, by referring it to the Committee on Revisal, was lost, and the resolution was adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That there be appointed a committee of nine to consider chapters 6, 7, and 8, of the Book of Discipline, and the amendments proposed thereto; and that said committee shall be charged with the duty of drafting and reporting to this Conference a simple and effective plan for Church trials.

H. F. JOHNSON,

W. E. M. LINFIELD.

The Chair then called for petitions, memorials, and appeals. The delegations responded, as follows:

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—A memorial on boundaries, trustees, local preachers, district schools, trial of members. All referred to the Committee on Revisal, except the last, which was referred to the Select Committee of nine on Church Trials. A memorial in relation to the division of the Virginia Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—A memorial in relation to the boundaries of the Holston and Baltimore Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A memorial regarding stewards, trustees, etc. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. A memorial referring to Sunday-school superintendents. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—A memorial in relation to Church trials. Referred to the Committee on Church Trials. A memorial on finance. Referred to the Committee on Finance. A memorial in regard to the size of Presiding Elders' Districts. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. A memorial in relation to popular amusements. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. A memorial on

temperance. Referred to the Committee on Temperance. A memorial referring to local preachers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—A memorial in relation to the appointment of Sunday-school superintendents and Sunday-school literature. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools. A memorial in regard to La Grange Female College. Referred to the Committee on Education.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE.—A memorial referring to the term of pastoral service in Key West. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—A memorial in relation to the support of superannuated preachers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—A memorial in relation to trustees of institutions of learning. Referred to the Committee on Education. A petition to change the Conference boundaries. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—A petition for the formation of a separate German Conference. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. A petition in reference to German publications. Referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—A memorial in reference to the election of Sunday-school superintendents. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools. A memorial in regard to the sale and use of intoxicating liquors. Referred to the Committee on Temperance.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—A memorial in reference to stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

WEST ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—A memorial in regard to changes in the baptismal office. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. A petition in regard to missions. Referred to the Committee on Missions. A memorial on temperance. Referred to the Committee on Temperance.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—A memorial on the subject of general education. Referred to the Committee on Education.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial in regard to the boundaries between the Arkansas and White River Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries. A memorial in relation to the duties of recording stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

WHITE RIVER CONFERENCE.—A memorial in relation to boundaries between White River and Arkansas Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—A petition in relation to boundaries

between Arkansas and Little Rock Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries. A memorial on Church records. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial on the disbursement of Conference funds. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial on a separate German Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE.—A memorial on the change of boundaries between the Pacific and Los Angeles Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—A memorial on the boundaries of said Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries. A memorial on the subject of itinerancy. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. A memorial on temperance. Referred to the Committee on Temperance.

Bishop Paine presented a communication, received by telegraph, from the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, now in session in Lynchburg, Va., which was read, as follows:

LYNCHBURG, VA., May 4, 1874.

To the Bishop and Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, greeting:

DEAR BRETHREN:—By order and in behalf of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, now in session, we salute you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and of our common Methodism, praying that divine wisdom may preside over your deliberations, and that great peace and prosperity may prevail in all your borders.

Yours, in Christ Jesus our Lord,

L. W. BATES, President.

A. C. HARRIS, Secretary.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted, by a rising vote:

Resolved, That the communication just received from the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church has been heard with great satisfaction, and the Bishops and Secretary of this Conference are hereby requested to respond, in behalf of this body; to the fraternal greetings of our Methodist Protestant brethren.

J. E. EVANS,

A. L. P. GREEN.

An invitation to visit the State School for the Blind was read and accepted.

A resolution of H. H. Montgomery, J. T. Heard, and P. Tuggle, favoring the publication of a Quarterly Review, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

A resolution of H. H. Montgomery and W. E. M. Linfield, in reference to lay delegates to the Annual Conferences, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of H. H. Montgomery and C. G. Andrews, favoring a change of Discipline, Ans. 3, Sec. 2, Chap. 2, p. 39, so as to strike out "except such as involves ministerial character." Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of H. H. Montgomery and C. G. Andrews, on a Secretary of District Conferences, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of H. H. Montgomery and C. G. Andrews, on Recording Stewards, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, it was ordered that resolutions which are to go before standing committees be offered by the call of the Conferences.

A resolution of L. S. Reed, R. Pollard, J. E. Brodwater, J. C. Granbery, favoring the expunction of the rule limiting Districts to fourteen appointments, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of L. S. Reed and R. Pollard, favoring the insertion of a rule in the Discipline discouraging operatic singing in our congregations, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of P. A. Peterson, on the Order of Business of Quarterly Conferences, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of F. W. Earnest and W. G. E. Cunyningham, referring to reports on Sunday-schools to the Quarterly Conference, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of W. F. Cook and H. J. Adams, on the reception of members, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of H. J. Adams, W. F. Cook, and W. H. Potter, favoring the holding of Missionary meetings at District Conferences, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Missions.

A resolution of W. F. Cook and W. H. Potter, on the relation of baptized children to the Church, and the reception of members, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of J. Hamilton and W. C. Johnson, on a Woman's Missionary Organization, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Missions.

A resolution of N. T. Lupton and J. W. Whitten, on the support of the ministry, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

A resolution of J. D. Anthony, and other delegates of the North Alabama Conference, asking that the Alabama Conference be called "South Alabama," was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Resolutions of T. Y. Ramsey and A. C. Allen, on giving probationers who are discontinued by an Annual Conference a certificate of location, and an addition to paragraph 4, Sec. 11, Chap. 3, of the Discipline, were offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of G. M. Winton and G. M. Jones, proposing to allow superannuated preachers a seat in Quarterly and District Conferences, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

A resolution of M. M. Pugh and N. Scarritt, favoring a change of Discipline, paragraph 1, Sec. 5, Chap. 9, p. 149, on Joint Boards of Finance, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of C. I. Vandeventer and J. E. Ryland, asking the insertion of the Pastoral Address of the Bishops of 1870 in the Discipline, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of G. A. Dannelly, J. Wickersham, and J. Mackey, on the order of Quarterly Conference business, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of C. Pope and S. M. McGehee, in regard to the removal of the restriction concerning local preachers, on page 32 of the Discipline, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of J. L. de Yampert, R. H. Powell, and A. Hunter, referring to lay members of the Joint Board of Finance, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

Also a resolution respecting claimants upon the Conference Fund, which was referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of J. H. McLean and J. M. Binkley, on so amending the Discipline as to allow of but one Board of Trustees for a pastoral charge, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

Resolutions respecting General Conference business, Quarterly and

Church Conferences, signed O. Fisher, were presented by Texas delegates, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

Resolutions on reporting members, and asking that the word "present" be substituted for the word "past," in Sec. 4, pp. 54, 55, of the Discipline, were offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of L. V. Greer, J. Adams, D. Morse, and W. M. Shumatte, asking changes of Discipline, Ques. 2, Sec. 5, Chap. 8, p. 80, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of W. G. Connor and R. J. Morgan, favoring the publication of the Sunday-school Lessons, etc., in a permanent form, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

A communication from the Trustees of the Public Schools of Louisville was presented and read, and their invitation to visit the schools and use their room for committees, on motion of P. A. Peterson, was accepted, and the thanks of Conference were returned by a rising vote.

The Chair announced the names of the Special Committee of Nine on Church Trials, as follows: H. F. Johnson, S. Bobo, J. W. Hinton, J. P. Strother, T. L. Boswell, E. J. Lilly, W. H. Potter, H. W. Foote, W. G. Veal.

The venerable Lovick Pierce was then brought forward by the Chair, and though very feeble, made an affecting address to the Conference. He said:

MY BELOVED BRETHREN:—I stand before you rather as a marvel in the history of Methodist preachers. It would be very unbecoming in me to congratulate you on account of my presence with you, but it is right that I should congratulate myself on being permitted to see this very certainly the last General Conference I shall ever attend. I have been greatly honored—more, certainly, than I have ever deserved. I have never been left out since the time of my eligibility as a delegate. I have never done much. I have always felt inclined to retire rather than make myself bold and prominent. I had no expectation when it was announced to me that I was elected to this General Conference that I could be present with you. It may be considered as the first instance in history, at least in that of our own ministry, that a man in his ninetieth year has traveled six hundred miles and occupied his seat daily in a body like this; but God has conferred upon me this very remarkable blessing.

In regard to myself I may say that my voice has ever been clear, easy to use, to control, and to hear. It could be heard readily by ten thousand attentive listeners, and it was never weakened or cracked for sixty-seven years. During this long period I preached many long and

hard sermons, so that in this line of things I acquired great reputation for my preaching powers. But now my voice is gone, and it cannot be repaired, so that I cannot do what I desired to do at the request of my friends. During my life I have offered to the General Conference only four resolutions asking for changes in our Discipline, but I have had the pleasure of seeing them all accepted, and they now stand in your Discipline.

Although I have not attempted—to use a common expression—to tinker much with the Discipline, I have never seen the day when I was perfectly satisfied to have the phraseology remain perpetually the same. I have prepared some changes for your consideration, but feeling well satisfied that I cannot command my voice, I have not brought them with me, though I have written them out with care, and it is impossible for me to bring them before you, except by your indulgence, which I am satisfied will always be granted when it is properly asked. I have drawn up three papers from my ministerial experience, running far into the sixty-ninth year, which propose measures intended to vitalize and energize the itinerant ministry. They are but little after all, and perhaps you may not appreciate them as much as I do myself. I have some others relating to the administration of discipline in the Church, upon which I desire that the Conference will allow me, if able to do so, to say a few words from time to time. I trust when the weather is more favorable that I shall be able to say what I desire. I say this much only now so as to have my infirmities in your hearts, and I know they will have your sympathy. At another time, with your indulgence, I shall present the changes which I propose, and you may adopt them if you see fit, or let them perish in their passage.

The following resolution was offered, read, and adopted :

Resolved, That this Conference will gladly hear Dr. L. Pierce on the subjects referred to in his address, as his health and strength may permit; and that, if at any time, our rules of order conflict with this resolution, said rules be hereby suspended.

J. O. A. CLARK,
A. G. HAYGOOD,
THOS. O. SUMMERS.

The following resolution was offered, read, and adopted :

Resolved, That the editors and representatives of our Church papers, with the Book Agent, be requested to confer together respecting the price of our Church journals, in order to secure uniformity of price, and place each one on a safe financial basis.

R. ALEXANDER,
JOHN H. MCLEAN,
TRUSTEN POLK.

The following resolution was then offered, read, discussed, and, on motion of A. W. Wilson, was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy:

Resolved, That the resolution passed by the General Conference in Memphis, Tenn., in 1870, authorizing the Bishops to appoint one or more preachers to any proper work beyond the bounds of the Annual Conferences be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

A. R. WINFIELD,

LEROY M. LEE.

The following resolution was offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Worship be respectfully requested to have as much preaching during the session of the General Conference as practicable.

F. E. PITTS,

R. H. POWELL.

R. H. Powell, of the Alabama Conference, was substituted for A. A. Coleman, on the Committee on Boundaries.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Wednesday Morning, May 6, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Wightman in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by Nelson Head. The Minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop Marvin then took the chair, and called for new arrivals.

Felix F. Porter, lay delegate from the Memphis Conference, appeared and took his seat. He was placed on the Committee on Boundaries, *vice* John Moss.

W. R. Webb, lay delegate from the Tennessee Conference, appeared and took his seat.

W. M. Leathers, lay delegate from the Kentucky Conference, appeared and took his seat, which had been filled by J. R. Beckley, reserve.

The Chair then called for reports of committees, but none were presented.

The Chair then called for petitions, memorials, and appeals.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—The appeal of Lorenzo D. Huston from the action of the Baltimore Conference, by which he was expelled on a charge of immorality, was presented by J. S. Martin, Secretary of that Conference. The Chair ruled that the appeal must be brought forward by some one representing the appellant. After some discussion, J. B. McFerrin appeared as representative of the appellant. He stated the grounds of appeal—the main ground being that the evidence did not sustain the charge and specifications. S. Register stated that

he and A. W. Wilson appeared in behalf of the Baltimore Conference, and spoke in regard to the grounds of appeal. A. W. Wilson defended the regularity of the trial by the court below. L. M. Lee moved that the appeal be allowed. The Chair stated that before the vote could be put the charge and specifications, with the finding of the court below, must be read. H. H. Montgomery appealed from the ruling of the Chair. The Chair stated that unless overruled by the Conference, the order of proceeding in such cases as laid down in the Manual of the Discipline would be followed. The Chair then stated the appeal from the ruling in the case. The vote was taken, and division called for—95 voted to sustain the appeal, and 124 against. So the ruling of the Chair was sustained. On motion of J. E. Edwards, the reading of the papers was dispensed with in this particular case. A motion of W. H. Potter to postpone the whole question till to-morrow at 10 o'clock, did not prevail. The vote was then taken on allowing the appeal, and the appeal was allowed.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—A memorial on the claims of superannuated preachers was presented, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—A memorial from the Mississippi Conference in relation to the Course of Study was presented. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—A memorial in regard to boundaries. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries. A memorial on the extension of the pastoral term. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—A. R. Winfield stated the case of an appeal taken by a former member of that Conference who had been expelled, but who had subsequently joined another Church. The point was raised whether it is competent for the Conference to entertain an appeal in such a case. The Chair decided that the appeal could not be entertained. A memorial respecting changes of economy in relation to the number of appointments in circuits and districts. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

John Adams, of the Texas delegation, was taken from the Committee on Itinerancy, and D. Morse was put in his place.

A resolution of T. S. Wade, W. Downtain, and R. S. Bickel, on the boundaries between the Western Virginia and Baltimore Conferences, was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

P. A. Peterson, M. S. Andrews, A. M. Shipp, A. R. Winfield, offered a resolution on a change of basis of clerical and lay representation, which was read and referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

W. S. Black, S. D. Adams, L. S. Burkhead, W. H. Bobbitt, offered a resolution on a plan to secure a Board of District Trustees, which was read and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. J. Scott, C. Long, and L. D. Palmer, offered a resolution deprecating any material modification of the Presiding Eldership, which was read and referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

W. J. Scott, H. J. Adams, W. F. Cook, offered a resolution favoring the appointment of evangelists, which was read and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

H. J. Adams and W. F. Cook offered a resolution on a change in the Discipline regarding the trial of a traveling preacher, which was read and referred to the Special Committee on Church Trials.

G. M. Nolan and T. M. Meriwether offered a resolution on the duty of pastors as to class-meetings, which was read and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

T. M. Meriwether, J. M. Beall, and J. Jackson, offered a resolution on the support of the ministry, which was read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

L. Pierce and J. S. Key offered three resolutions in relation to the administrative duties of preachers, which were read, and after explanation by the venerable mover, were referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

J. O. A. Clark and J. W. Hinton offered a resolution proposing changes in the Discipline as to representation of local preachers in the Conferences, and other matters; which were referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. Hamilton and W. Shapard offered a resolution in regard to trustees, deprecating the use of our churches for improper purposes. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. Hamilton, M. S. Andrews, W. A. McCarty, W. Shapard, offered a resolution in relation to the number of appointments in a district. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. Shapard and J. Hamilton offered a resolution favoring an amendment of the Discipline, so as to require the grounds of appeal to be stated when it is taken. Referred to the Committee on Church Trials.

J. W. Whitten and Anson West offered a resolution in relation to secretaries of Quarterly Conferences and recording stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

O. J. Moore, W. E. Tomlinson, and T. Y. Ramsey, offered a resolution favoring the expunction of all after the word "provided," in

paragraph 6, Sec. 3, Chap. 2, p. 49, of Discipline. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

Also a resolution favoring the expunction of all after the word "except," in paragraph 3, Sec. 2, Chap. 2, p. 39. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

N. Scarritt, C. I. Vandeventer, and G. M. Winton offered resolutions in regard to the modification of the Presiding Elder's office. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

M. M. Pugh and N. Scarritt offered a resolution to change Ans. 1, Ques. 2, Sec. 4, Chap. 6, p. 126, so as to read, after the word "preachers," in the third line from the top, as follows: "or one local preacher and two laymen." Referred to the Committee on Church Trials.

W. M. Rush and J. C. Wills offered a resolution allowing the Bishops to appoint teachers in our literary institutions to the pastoral charge of such institutions, and of the congregations locally connected with them, without affecting their Conference relations. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

A. R. Winfield and J. B. McFerrin offered a resolution respecting Church trials. Referred to the Committee on Church Trials.

A. R. Winfield and J. T. Scruggs offered a resolution respecting Quarterly Conference journals. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. J. Clark and I. G. John offered a resolution on the support of the ministry. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

T. Stanford and W. Price offered a resolution in regard to the children of the Church. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

The following resolutions were offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the Bishops be requested to consider the subject of the election and ordination of our native-born missionaries in foreign stations; and suggest to this Conference what legislation, if any, is necessary on this subject.

WILLIAM SHAPARD,

W. A. McCARTY.

Resolved, That this General Conference is thankful to Almighty God that the Rev. Dr. Lovick Pierce has been graciously preserved to the 90th year of his age, in such full mental vigor, and sufficient bodily health to be present with us as a delegate.

Resolved, That we are anxious one more time to hear this aged servant of God expound the gospel which he has so long illustrated, both by precept and example, and we most earnestly request him to preach before the Conference, in this hall, at such time as may suit

his convenience—due notice thereof being given to the public, that all who wish, and whom the hall can accommodate, may have opportunity to hear him.

A. A. GILBERT,
A. R. WINFIELD,
D'ARCY PAUL,
JAMES JACKSON,
R. J. MORGAN,
MILTON BROWN,
TRUSTEN POLK.

The following communication was presented by E. W. Sehon, read, and the courteous invitation was accepted, by a rising vote:

LOUISVILLE, KY., May 5, 1874.

DR. SEHON—DEAR SIR:—Being desirous that the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, now in session here, should receive every attention and courtesy, I have much pleasure in extending to each and all the members thereof, a cordial invitation to the Board of Trade Rooms during their stay in our city. Hoping it will be agreeable to them to accept this invitation, most cordially given, I am, dear sir,

Yours respectfully, JOHN BARBEE,
President Board of Trade and Chamber of Commerce.

A letter from Mr. J. B. Webster, asking the privilege of taking the photographic pictures of the Conference, was read.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Thursday Morning, May 7, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Marvin in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by J. Harrell.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

The Chair then announced the Committee on the Appeal of L. D. Huston, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON THE APPEAL OF L. D. HUSTON FROM THE BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

Baltimore Conference, John S. Martin; Virginia, John C. Granbery; Western Virginia, T. S. Wade; Holston, Carroll Long; North Carolina, L. S. Burkhead; South Carolina, W. H. Fleming; North Georgia, H. J. Adams; South Georgia, J. O. A. Clark; Florida, Samuel Woodbery; Alabama, William Shapard; North Alabama, J. W. Whitten; Louisiana, John Pipes; Mississippi, H. H. Mont-

gomery; North Mississippi, Thomas Y. Ramsey; Memphis, John Moss; Tennessee, William Burr; Kentucky, J. W. Fitch; Louisville, Timothy C. Frogge; St. Louis, A. T. Scruggs; West St. Louis, G. M. Winton; Missouri, H. A. Bourland; Western, D. C. O'Howell; Indian Mission, J. H. Walker; Arkansas, I. L. Burrow; White River, J. Mackey; Little Rock, C. Pope; Trinity, Jacob M. Binkley; East Texas, Daniel Morse; Texas, I. G. John; North-west Texas, Thomas Stanford; West Texas, B. Harris; Los Angeles, A. Adams; Pacific, George Sim; Columbia, B. R. Johnson; Illinois, J. W. Wescott.

BISHOP KEENER is to preside.

J. D. VINCL, to be Secretary.

Bishop Doggett took the chair and called for new arrivals.

Thomas W. Garrett, a lay delegate from Virginia Conference; A. E. Williams, a lay delegate from South Carolina Conference; A. A. Coleman, H. A. Stollenwerck, T. J. S. Kimbrough, lay delegates from the Alabama Conference; Atha Thomas, lay delegate from Tennessee Conference, appeared and took their seats.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, the resolution referring to the appointment of evangelists, referred, May 6, to the Committee on Revisal, was transferred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

The Chair called for Reports of Standing and Select Committees. None were presented.

The Chair then called for petitions, memorials, and appeals.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—A resolution in regard to the boundaries of the Alabama and North Mississippi Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—A memorial from said Conference respecting a uniform method of conducting Sunday-schools. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—A memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Morganfield Circuit, in regard to the use of Church buildings, and duties of trustees. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. A memorial in relation to the trial of local preachers. Referred to the Special Committee on Church Trials.

J. W. Hanner, Chairman of the Committee on Revisal, returned several papers referring to finance, with a request that they be transferred to the Committee on Finance—they were so referred.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, two papers relating to the duties of the Joint Board of Finance, referred, May 6, to the Committee on Revisal, were transferred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion of J. E. Edwards, a paper relating to the Course of

Study, referred, May 6, to the Committee on Itinerancy, was transferred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

A resolution of J. S. Kennedy and J. M. McTeer, proposing to take the power of licensing and recommending preachers from the Quarterly and assign it to the District Conference, was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

A resolution of J. S. Kennedy and C. Long to define the relation of local preachers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of C. Long and J. W. Gaut on holding love-feasts with closed doors. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution by E. E. Wiley and W. M. Leftwich inquiring into the relation of the *Southern Review* to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

A resolution of C. Long and J. W. Gaut on changing the order of business in the Quarterly Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of T. C. Smith, L. S. Burkhead, and B. Craven, requesting the Committee on Sunday-schools to inquire into the propriety of having our Sunday-school Secretary adopt the International Lesson Text of Scripture, commencing January 1, 1875. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

A resolution of L. S. Burkhead, B. Craven, E. J. Lilly, and W. S. Black, in relation to the support of the ministry. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

A resolution of B. Craven and L. S. Burkhead in relation to class-meetings. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of A. M. Shipp and other members of the South Carolina delegation, in reference to Catechisms. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

A resolution of W. H. Fleming, A. Hunter, and H. A. C. Walker, to amend the Discipline on p. 141, Sec. 3, paragraph 4, so that the sentence shall read, "who shall be a member of the Quarterly Conference." Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of W. H. Potter and W. F. Cook, in reference to Recording Stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

Also a resolution on representation of local preachers. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

A resolution of T. M. Meriwether, G. M. Nolan, J. B. Hunnicutt, and H. J. Adams, favoring the election of class-leaders by the Quarterly Conference at the nomination of the pastor. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of H. J. Adams and J. B. Hunnicutt, in regard to the confirmation of class-leaders. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of T. W. Carter and J. F. White, in relation to the support of the ministry, etc. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

A resolution of T. W. Carter, S. Woodbery, and J. F. White, on the election of Sunday-school superintendents. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

A resolution of Anson West and R. A. Hardaway, in regard to the licensing of preachers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of M. M. Pugh and J. P. Strother, on sinful amusements. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of J. Wickersham and J. Mackey, on Mexican Missions, was read and referred to the Committee on Missions.

A resolution of J. L. de Yampert and C. Pope, requesting the Bishops to add a work on the Elementary Principles of Vocal Music to the Course of Study. On motion of J. E. Edwards, it was referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

On motion of F. W. Earnest and J. M. McTeer, the Sub-committee on Itinerancy was requested to furnish a copy of the papers presented by L. Pierce, May 6, for publication in the *Daily Christian Advocate*.

Bishop Paine presented the response of the Bishops to the request of the General Conference that the College of Bishops should suggest a plan for the ordination of native-born missionaries in the foreign mission field, which was read and laid on the table under the rules.

A resolution of J. H. Pritchett, C. I. Vandeventer, and N. Scarritt, "providing for a correspondence with other Methodisms," was offered, read, and, on motion of A. W. Wilson, was laid on the table for the present.

A resolution of P. A. Peterson and L. S. Reed, on the subject of sinful amusements. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A resolution of A. A. Gilbert, and other lay delegates, recommending a law enforcing contributions to the support of the Church. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

A communication from L. D. Dameron, Business Manager of the South-western Book and Publishing Company, St. Louis, was read, and referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

Bishop Paine stated that he had received a communication from the gentlemen appointed by the General Conference of the M. E. Church to convey to this body its fraternal greetings, announcing their presence in Louisville. The communication was presented and read, as follows:

COMMUNICATION FROM THE FRATERNAL MESSENGERS OF THE M. E. CHURCH.

GALT HOUSE, LOUISVILLE, KY., May 7, 1874.

To the Bishops and members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, now in session in Louisville, Ky.:

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—We, the undersigned, have been appointed by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church to convey the fraternal greetings of said body to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. We await your pleasure. Fraternally yours,

ALBERT S. HUNT,

CHARLES H. FOWLER,

CLINTON B. FISK.

The following resolution was offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That it be the pleasure of the General Conference to receive the commissioners of the M. E. Church on to-morrow morning at 10:30 o'clock, to receive the fraternal greetings they bring to us from their Church, and that the Committee on Introductions inform them of the readiness of the Conference to receive them at the hour appointed.

L. M. LEE,

JOHN E. EDWARDS.

A resolution of R. Hiner, and other delegates of the Kentucky Conference, respecting a change of the boundary lines between the Kentucky and Louisville Conferences, was offered, read, and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

A resolution of D. Morse and L. V. Greer, in regard to the liquor traffic by members of the Church. Referred to the Committee on Temperance.

A resolution of A. H. Redford and T. Bottomley, in regard to the proposed change of the boundary between the Kentucky and Louisville Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

R. Hiner was announced as Chairman of the Committee on the Bible Cause.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Friday Morning, May 8, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Doggett in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by W. M. Rush. The Minutes were read and approved. Bishop McTyeire took the chair.

Alonzo G. Mayers, lay delegate from the Mississippi Conference, and Wiley D. Rountree, lay delegate from the North Carolina Conference, appeared and took their seats.

John E. Edwards, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 1 of said committee, which was read, and, on motion of J. W. Kelly, was recommitted, that it might be conformed to Rule 7.

R. Alexander, Chairman of the Committee on Boundaries, presented Report No. 1 of said committee, which was read, and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES, NO 1.

Your Committee on Boundaries would respectfully beg leave to submit the following partial report. Many of the memorials referred to them are yet under advisement, but they have duly considered others, and as the sense of the committee thereon, recommend the adoption of the following:

1. That the Territories of Colorado and New Mexico be, and they are hereby, erected into a separate Conference under the name and style of "The Denver Conference."

2. That the Territory of Montana be, and the same is hereby, created a separate Conference, by the name and style of "The Montana Conference."

3. That so much of the "work" in the States of Texas and Louisiana as is under the supervision of the German ministers of our Church be, and the same is hereby, created a separate Conference, by the name and style of "The German Mission Conference of Texas and Louisiana."

4. That the name of the West St. Louis Conference be, and the same is hereby, changed to that of "The South-west Missouri Conference."

5. That the memorial from Oak Bowery, Soule Chapel, Cusseta, and Hopewell appointments to be transferred from the North Alabama Conference to the Alabama Conference, be not granted.

6. That so much of the Alabama Conference as lies north of the Noxubee and west of the Tombigbee Rivers, and embraced in Sumter county, be, and the same is hereby, added to and made a part of the North Mississippi Conference.

7. That so much of the Little Rock Conference as is embraced in Perry county be, and the same is hereby, transferred to and made a part of the Arkansas Conference.

8. That the memorial to change the boundary between the Louisville Conference and the Kentucky Conference be not granted.

9. That the memorial of the North Alabama Conference, asking that the name of the Alabama Conference be changed to that of the South Alabama Conference, be not granted.

R. E. ANDERSON,
Secretary.

R. ALEXANDER,
Chairman.

Louisville, May 8, 1874.

W. C. Johnson, Chairman of the Committee on Books and Periodicals, presented Report No. 1 of said committee, which was read and adopted, item by item, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 1.

Your committee have, as thoroughly as possible, considered the Exhibit of the Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, for the four years ending April 30, 1874, by A. H. Redford, Agent. Through a sub-committee, and with assistance from Dr. Redford, whose presence was invited, they have carefully examined, item by item, every section of the Exhibit; and from information thus obtained, in addition to inquiries made by the committee as a whole, they are fully satisfied that the statement of facts and figures contained in the Exhibit, including the estimates of values, is fairly and properly presented, and that the Exhibit is correct and trustworthy in every particular.

Your committee have also considered the Report of the Book Committee, expressing full approval of the policy of the Agent, and of his able and successful management of the Publishing House, for which, that committee state, a debt of gratitude is due him from the whole Church. Besides, your committee have undoubted evidence that the Agent, in the spirit of self-sacrifice, has employed, with success, not only the resources of the Publishing House, but his private credit and means, to sustain and promote the important interests committed to his care, and so seriously threatened in the midst of the great financial disasters of the country.

Your committee offer the following resolutions for adoption by the General Conference, viz.:

Resolved, 1. That we approve the financial management of the Publishing House by the Agent, including herein the erection of a spacious and elegant building in place of the old structure destroyed by fire, by which the Publishing House has acquired largely increased facilities for its business.

2. That not only are we convinced of the solvency of the Publishing House, but in view of the stringency of the money market, we are

highly gratified with the increase of its receipts and assets, and with the prospect of its ability to meet its liabilities at maturity, thus giving assurance, if our preachers and people will do their duty, of continued and enlarged prosperity in the diffusion of a sound religious literature.

3. That we express to Dr. Redford our grateful acknowledgments for his assumption of personal hazards and risks in carrying on the business of the Publishing House, in addition to the faithful discharge of his official duties as Agent.

Respectfully submitted. W. C. JOHNSON, Chairman.

The Secretary asked and obtained permission to record the reports in a separate volume, with proper references.

J. W. Hanner presented Report No. 1 of the Committee on Revisal, which was read, and the item referring to the transfer of certain papers to other committees was adopted, and the remainder was laid on the table under the rule. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, NO. 1.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to offer Report No. 1:

After having carefully considered sundry memorials from the Kentucky, Mississippi, and other Conferences, requesting that District Conferences be authorized to examine and correct, annually, the records of Quarterly Conferences, and inspect Church Registers, your committee recommend the following, viz.:

1. That the Recording Stewards be required to send their records of Quarterly Conferences to the District Conferences annually, for inspection; *provided* the Annual Conference shall so direct. And that this be placed in the Discipline, on page 53, under Ques. 4, after paragraph 8.

2. Your committee also recommend that the following be inserted on page 49, just before paragraph 6: To appoint committees to examine Quarterly Conference records, when so directed by the Annual Conference.

3. Your committee have also considered a memorial from the St. Charles District Conference, of the Missouri Conference, asking that Secretaries of District Conferences be allowed to hold office for the period of four years, and that each be, *ex officio*, a member of his Conference during his term of office, and recommend that you do *not* concur.

4. Having likewise considered the resolution of the Holston Conference, instructing the delegates of said Conference to urge the

General Conference to insert in the Discipline the "Boundaries of the several Annual Conferences," your committee recommend that it be done.

5. A resolution of the Louisiana Conference, referred to your committee, requesting that the General Conference so amend the language of the General Rules of the "United Societies," organized by Mr. Wesley in 1739, on page 26, Chap. 1, Sec. 2, as that it shall be stated in direct terms, that these are the General Rules of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was duly considered, and we recommend *non-concurrence*.

6. A memorial from West Texas Conference, relating to a change in the office of "baptism of those of riper years," requesting that the word *may* be put instead of "shall," on page 201, Sec. 3, Chap. 13, so that the parenthesis shall read, ("or if he shall desire it, *may* immerse him in water"), has been carefully considered, and your committee recommend *non-concurrence* therewith.

7. Also a memorial from Cibolo Circuit, West Texas Conference, asking that the minimum number of trustees be *three* instead of "five," has been considered, and we recommend that the language of the Discipline be so changed on page 102, Chap. 3, Sec. 16, Ans. 3 to Ques. 2, that it be made to read, "Otherwise seven, five, or three." Paragraph as amended: "3. Let nine trustees be appointed for holding Church property, when proper persons can be procured; otherwise, seven, five, or three, who shall elect their own Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer."

8. A paper from the North Georgia Conference, requesting that the following action of the General Conference of 1870 be put into the Discipline, viz., "That each Annual Conference elect a Corresponding Secretary to represent the Sunday-school interests of *that* Conference to the Sunday-school Secretary elected by the General Conference" (Journal, p. 216), has been considered, and your committee recommend that the same be made answer 4, on page 114, Chap. 8, Sec. 5, and that the notation of answer 4 be 5.

9. Your committee have had under consideration the memorial from Louisville Conference, asking that statistics necessary to the report in the General Minutes be categorically stated in the Discipline, and recommend *non-concurrence*.

10. Also a paper from the same Conference asking for the same conditions to obtain in the selection of trustees for school property as exists in relation to Church-houses, etc., has been considered, and your committee recommend *non-concurrence*.

11. A memorial from Mississippi Conference, praying this body to restore Ques. 2, Sec. 15, Chap. 2, edition of Discipline 1858, has been before us, and we recommend *non concurrence*.

12. Your committee having duly considered a memorial from Virginia Conference, asking that the law governing local preachers be amended, recommend the following to be placed in the Discipline, on page 89, as the 5th Ans. to Ques. 4, viz.: "A preacher receiving a certificate of location, or of official standing, and failing to present the same to some Quarterly Conference within the period of six months from the date of said certificate, shall not be recognized as a local preacher in our Church, unless he satisfy the Quarterly Conference to which he may apply that the failure to do so was unavoidable."

13. Your committee had referred to them "preamble and resolutions modifying the office of Presiding Elder," signed by N. Scarritt and others. This paper is reported back to the General Conference, with the recommendation that it be referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

14. Also a resolution, signed M. M. Pugh, N. Scarritt, touching "the trial of a local preacher," which is returned to the committee with the request that it be referred to the Committee on Church Trials.

Respectfully submitted. JOHN W. HANNER, Chairman.

The Chair then called for petitions, memorials, and appeals.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—A memorial asking a rule in regard to the use of intoxicating liquors. Referred to the Committee on Temperance.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—A resolution in relation to the election of two or more Bishops. Read and referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—A resolution in reference to defining a quorum in the boards of stewards and trustees. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

WHITE RIVER CONFERENCE.—A resolution in relation to recording stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

B. Craven, N. H. Wilson, and L. S. Burkhead, offered a resolution on episcopal decisions. Referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

W. E. M. Linfield and H. F. Johnson offered the following resolution, which was read, and laid on the table under the rules:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by this General Conference, to open, at as early a day as practicable, a correspondence with the various Methodist bodies, both in Europe and America, touching the following matters of common interest:

1. A union of *missionary* effort throughout the world.

2. The adoption of a *common Standard Hymnal*.

3. The adoption of a plan by which preachers may be transferred from one body to another without such formal process as is contemplated in our Book of Discipline—Chap. 3, Sec. 12.

J. H. PRITCHETT,
C. I. VANDEVENTER,
N. SCARRITT.

P. A. Peterson and J. E. Evans offered a resolution favoring the incorporation into the Discipline of the action of the General Conference of 1836, in regard to the recommendation of Quarterly Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

D. Morse, J. Adams, L. V. Greer, and W. M. Shumatte, offered a resolution in regard to the boundaries between East Texas and Trinity Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

W. G. Veal, D. Morse, and W. M. Shumatte, offered a resolution asking for a change of the Discipline, on page 167. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

Also a resolution asking for the insertion of marginal notes in the Discipline. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. Price and E. A. Martin offered a resolution referring to the duties of Presiding Elders. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. G. Connor and W. Price offered a resolution in relation to a Catechism for infant-classes. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

W. H. Fleming and R. Hiner offered a resolution relating to the publication of Catechisms on our Church History and Economy. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

T. Polk and A. T. Scruggs offered a resolution asking for a change of Discipline, on page 100, Ques. 6. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. E. Evans and G. A. Dannelly offered a resolution on fixing the responsibility of members holding Church-certificates. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

M. H. Evans, R. Hiner, and C. W. Miller, offered a resolution in relation to paragraphing the Discipline. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. L. de Yampert and R. H. Powell offered a resolution asking for a change in the form of the Church-certificate. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

P. Tuggle and H. W. Foote offered a resolution asking that the title "South" be affixed to the Mississippi Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

The order of the day then came up, and the Committee on Introductions escorted the members of the delegation of the Methodist Episcopal Church to the platform, and introduced them to the Chair. The Rev. Albert S. Hunt, D.D., was introduced by Leroy M. Lee; the Rev. Charles H. Fowler, D.D., by James E. Evans; and General Clinton B. Fisk, by Simpson Bobo. The Chair introduced them to the Bishops and to Lovick Pierce, and presented the following communication, which was read:

COMMUNICATION ON FRATERNAL GREETINGS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to assemble in Louisville, Kentucky, in May, 1874:

REVEREND AND DEAR BRETHREN:—The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at their session in Brooklyn, New York, in 1872, adopted the following preamble and resolution:

“To place ourselves in the truly fraternal relations toward our Southern brethren, which the sentiments of our people demand, and to prepare the way for the opening of formal fraternity with them, be it hereby

“*Resolved*, That this General Conference will appoint a delegation consisting of two ministers and one layman, to convey our fraternal greetings to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at its next session.”

In carrying out this resolution, the General Conference made it the duty of the Bishops to appoint the delegates for which it provides.

In pursuance of this action the Board of Bishops have appointed Rev. Albert S. Hunt, D.D., Rev. Charles H. Fowler, D.D., and General Clinton B. Fisk, as said delegates.

The Board of Bishops also directed the undersigned, the senior members of said Episcopal Board, to furnish said delegates with proper credentials.

We therefore hereby certify that the three brethren above named have been duly appointed, by the authority of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, delegates to bear “the fraternal greetings” of the said General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

EDMUND S. JANES,

LEVI SCOTT,

MATTHEW SIMPSON,

EDWARD R. AMES,

Committee.

New York, April 20, 1874.

The Chair then addressed the Conference:

BRETHREN OF THE CONFERENCE:—On yesterday you set this hour for receiving the delegates from the Methodist Episcopal Church. They are now present with us, and I have the pleasure of introducing them to you.

The Rev. Drs. Albert S. Hunt and Charles H. Fowler, and General Clinton B. Fisk, were each introduced to the Conference, the members rising at their introduction.

The Chair then turned to the delegation and said, The General Conference is ready to hear you.

The delegates then addressed the Conference in the order named. Their addresses were characterized by excellent taste, great ability, and warm fraternal sentiments, which were well received by the Conference and the immense audience in attendance.

After the addresses, on motion of A. W. Wilson, the subject of the communication was referred to a Committee of nine, to be appointed by the Chair.

The Chair then, turning to the delegation, said:

Brethren, we are glad to see you, and to hear your words. We hope it will be convenient for you to spend some days with us—sharing the hospitalities of our people, and preaching in our pulpits. We invite you to be at home anywhere within our bar, or if it please you it will please us better that you be seated on the platform. Meantime, the matter of your coming and of your communication will be taken by the Conference under most respectful consideration, and in due time a response will be returned.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and the benediction by Lovick Pierce.

Saturday Morning, May 9, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Keener in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by Carroll Long.

The Minutes were read and approved.

W. J. Stafford, Reserve, lay delegate in place of W. J. Parks, lay delegate from the Arkansas Conference, appeared and took his seat.

J. E. Edwards, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 1 of said committee, which was recommitted on Friday, May 8. The Report was read, and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 1.

1. The memorial from the Louisiana Conference, and a petition

from a number of German preachers, belonging to the Texas and Louisiana Annual Conferences, praying the General Conference to establish a German Mission Conference, embracing in its boundaries the States of Louisiana and Texas. We have had the same under consideration, and unanimously recommend the formation of such a Conference at the earliest practicable period, to be known as the *German Mission Conference* of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

2. The resolution, signed T. W. Moore, for the Florida Conference delegation, asking that the Discipline be so changed as to place Key West, in the Florida Conference, in the list of exceptions to the four years' limitation of the pastorate has been considered, and the committee unanimously recommend the adoption of the resolution; and recommend that Chap. 3, Sec. 2, Ans. 2, to Ques. 3, p. 61, be so amended as to read: "To fix the appointments of the preachers in the Annual Conferences: *provided*, he shall not allow any preacher to remain in the same circuit or station more than four years successively, except the preachers stationed in Key West, Florida Conference, the book agents and editors, authorized by the General Conference, Secretary of the Missionary Board, the supernumerary and superannuated preachers," etc.

3. The resolution, signed by W. M. Rush and J. C. Wills, asking that "when an institution of learning is under the control of two or more Annual Conferences, it shall be *lawful* for the Bishop, presiding at the Conference within whose bounds the institution is located, to appoint to the pastoral charge of such institution, and of the congregation with which it is locally connected, a member of either of the patronizing Conferences, without disturbing his Conference relations by transfer," has been duly weighed and considered, and the committee, by a large majority, recommend that the resolution be *not* adopted.

4. The resolution, signed by G. M. Winton and George M. Jones, asking that the law fixing the membership of Quarterly and District Conferences be so amended as to constitute *superannuated preachers* members of the Conference (Quarterly and District), within the bounds of which they may reside, whether within or beyond the limits of the Annual Conferences to which they may respectively belong, has been patiently considered, and the committee concur in recommending to the General Conference the propriety of so amending Chap. 2, Sec. 3, paragraph 2, p. 48, of the Discipline, as to read: "The District Conference shall be composed of all the preachers in the District, traveling and local, including superannuated preachers

(whether resident without or within the limits of the Annual Conferences to which they belong), and of laymen, the number of whom, and their mode of appointment, each Annual Conference may determine for itself." And so to amend Chap. 2, Sec. 4, and Ans. to Ques. 1, p. 50, as to read: "All the traveling and local preachers, including superannuated preachers residing within the circuit or station (whether without or within the limits of the Annual Conferences to which they belong), with the exhorters, stewards, trustees, and class-leaders, of the respective circuits, stations, missions, together with the superintendents of Sunday-schools who are members of the Church, and secretaries of Church Conferences, and none others."

5. The committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the General Book Agent be requested to furnish each of the secretaries of the Annual Conferences, respectively, with a copy of the Journal of the General Conference, to be kept with the records of the Conference.

JOHN E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

T. J. Magruder, Chairman of the Committee on Sunday-schools, presented Report No. 1 of said committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS, NO. 1.

Resolved, 1. That in this, our first report, we would record our profound gratitude to Almighty God for the large success that has attended the Sunday-school cause during the past four years, and we pray that the Holy Spirit may be poured out on ministers and people, until the energies of all shall be enlisted to fulfill the Master's command: "Feed my lambs."

Resolved, 2. That among the many instrumentalities employed by the Church, the establishment of the Sunday-school secretaryship has been especially successful, and we recommend that it be continued.

Resolved, 3. That we commend the Rev. A. G. Haygood for the faithful manner in which he has performed the duties of his office, and tender him the thanks of all the Sunday-school workers in our bounds for the assistance rendered them in the Magazine and Uniform Lessons.

T. J. MAGRUDER, Chairman.

Also Report No. 2, of the same committee, which was read, and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 2.

Whereas, memorials have been referred to us by the General Con-

ference coming from Holston, Missouri, South Carolina, North Carolina, Memphis, Mississippi, Louisiana, and White River Annual Conferences, and from Lexington District Conference, West St. Louis; Hannibal District Conference, Missouri; Dalton District Conference, Georgia; also sundry resolutions from members of the General Conference, praying that the Superintendents of Sunday-schools shall be nominated by the preacher in charge, and elected by the Quarterly Conference: therefore,

Resolved, That the Discipline be so amended that Ans. 2 to Ques. 1, Sec. 5, p. 114, shall receive the following addition:

“And shall confirm or reject annually the nomination of Superintendents of Sunday-schools, made by the officers and teachers of such schools, with the approval of the pastor in charge.”

The article so amended on page 114, Ans. 2 to Ques. 1, Sec. 5, shall read thus:

“Each Quarterly Conference shall be deemed a Board of Managers, having the supervision of all the Sunday-schools and Sunday-school Societies within its limits, and shall confirm or reject the nomination of Superintendents of Sunday-schools, made by the officers and teachers of such schools, with the approval of the pastor in charge.”

T. J. MAGRUDER, Chairman.

Linus Parker, from that committee, asked the privilege to present a Minority Report No. 2, at a subsequent period. The privilege was granted.

A resolution of J. L. de Yampert and C. Pope, relating to the placing of a work on Vocal Music in the Course of Study, which had been referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools, was transferred to the Bishops.

J. W. Hanner, Chairman of the Committee on Revisal, asked that a resolution of L. S. Reed and others, relating to appointments in districts, referred to said committee, also a resolution signed W. J. Scott, H. J. Adams, and others, in reference to evangelists, referred to said committee, be transferred to the Committee on Itinerancy. They were so transferred.

The Chair then called for petitions, memorials, and appeals.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A memorial from Marion District Conference concerning local preachers. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—A memorial respecting temperance. Referred to the Committee on Temperance.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—A memorial signed by L. Pierce, S.

Anthony, J. S. Key, and W. H. Ellison, on Church Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

Also one on baptized children. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

Also one, by the same, on the trial of Church-members. Referred to the Committee on Church Trials.

W. A. McCarty and Linus Parker offered a resolution in reference to the representation of local preachers in the General Conference. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

J. B. McFerrin presented a communication containing an Exhibit of the Publishing House from 1858 to 1862, heretofore missing, but now found and presented as a part of the history of the House. Read and referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

J. B. McFerrin presented a communication from Young J. Allen, Missionary to China, respecting Missions in China and Japan. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

H. J. Adams, W. J. Scott, J. M. Beall, and T. M. Meriwether, offered a resolution on Bible-reading classes. Referred to the Committee on the Bible Cause.

W. M. Leftwich and A. T. Scruggs offered a resolution in regard to the pastoral term. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

F. E. Pitts and J. W. Whitten offered a resolution favoring the establishment of a Mission in Brazil. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

W. S. Black and others, of the North Carolina delegation, offered a resolution as to the power of changing the place of holding the District Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. H. Bobbitt, and other delegates of the North Carolina Conference, offered a resolution on local preachers reporting their labors to the fourth Quarterly Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. M. McTeer and C. Long offered a resolution concerning a change in the boundaries of the Holston Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Minority Report No. 2 of the Committee on Sunday-schools was presented by J. L. Davis and others. Read and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

MINORITY REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 2.

To the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South:

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—The undersigned minority of the

Committee on Sunday-schools, disagreeing with the majority of that committee in reference to the manner of electing Sunday-school Superintendents, beg leave to present the following Report to the General Conference on that subject, and ask that it be adopted in lieu of Report No. 2 of the majority:

Whereas, no specific rule is laid down in the Discipline for the election of Sunday-school Superintendents; and whereas, analogy and the reason of things indicate that the election of superintendents should be under the immediate control of the Quarterly Conference; and whereas, a large number of the Annual and District Conferences within our Connection have memorialized the General Conference to adopt a rule making the office of Sunday-school Superintendent elective by the Quarterly Conference; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we recommend to the General Conference that Ans. 2 to Ques. 4, Sec. 4, p. 51 of the Discipline, be amended by adding thereto the following: And to elect Superintendents of Sunday-schools on the nomination of the preacher in charge, so that said answer, as amended, shall read as follows:

2. To superintend the interests of Sunday-school's and the instruction of children, and to elect Superintendents of Sunday-school's on nomination of the preacher in charge.

JAMES L. DAVIS,
THOMAS C. SMITH,
J. D. THOMAS,
JOHN F. RYLAND,
JOHN T. MOTLEY,
LINUS PARKER,
MORRIS K. TAYLOR,
F. W. EARNEST,
J. W. GOAD,
J. G. WALKER.

J. H. McLean and others, of the Trinity Conference, offered a resolution deprecating the transfer of a part of the territory of said Conference to the East Texas Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

R. Pollard, and other delegates of the Virginia Conference, offered a resolution on the appointment of stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

The Chair announced the members of the Committee on Fraternal Greetings of the M. E. Church, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL GREETINGS FROM THE M. E. CHURCH.

Baltimore Conference, A. W. Wilson; Louisiana, L. Parker; Tennessee, A. L. P. Green; Kentucky, C. W. Miller; Texas, R. Alexander; Holston, R. W. Jones; Virginia, F. H. Smith; Little Rock, John L. de Yampert; Missouri, D. K. Pittman; with the request, the General Conference concurring, that Dr. L. Pierce act with the committee, as his health and strength may allow.

L. D. Palmer, L. J. Davies, and J. B. Hunnicutt, offered a resolution favoring the change of the word "present" in the Discipline, Chap. 6, Sec. 4, p. 126, 7th line, to "prosecute." Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, Report No. 1 of the Committee on Revisal, laid on the table May 8 (see page 411), was taken up.

W. E. M. Linfield moved to strike out the words, "provided the Annual Conference so direct," from the first item of the report.

On motion of H. A. C. Walker, the motion to amend was laid on the table.

H. J. Adams offered the following substitute for said item:

"That the Recording Stewards be required to send the records of Quarterly Conferences to the Annual Conferences annually for inspection."

On motion of L. S. Burkhead, the substitute was laid on the table.

After considerable discussion, the vote was taken, division called for, and the item was lost by a vote of 121 to 100.

On motion of S. Bobo, item 2 was laid on the table.

A motion of W. G. Veal, to amend item 12 by striking out "six" and inserting "three," was lost.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, the item was amended by inserting the words, "the Quarterly Conference to which he may apply," and then adopted.

The report thus amended was adopted.

H. A. Bourland, H. Pritchett, and C. I. Vandeventer, offered a resolution favoring changes in the office for the Baptism of Children. Read and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

On motion of the Secretary, the Conference then adjourned, with the benediction by the Bishop.

Monday Morning, May 11, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Keener in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by F. E. Pitts.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Paine then took the chair, and called for Reports of Standing Committees.

W. C. Johnson, Chairman of the Committee on Books and Periodicals, presented Report No. 2 of said committee, which was read.

H. F. Johnson offered an amendment, as follows:

"*Provided*, That the Book Agent and Book Committee shall not have authority to consummate the transfer, but shall report their action to the next General Conference."

The amendment was not adopted.

The following amendment was then offered by C. I. Vandeventer and A. H. Redford:

"*Provided*, The Publishing Agent (at Nashville) and the Book Committee shall not transfer the property referred to, without the consent of the *patronizing Conferences*."

Pending the discussion of this amendment, on motion of W. M. Leftwich, the Report, with the proposed amendment, was recommended.

J. W. Hanner, Chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 2 of said committee, which was read, and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, NO. 2.

Your committee have considered sundry resolutions and memorials, and offer the following as the result of their deliberations:

1. A resolution of Trusten Polk and A. T. Scruggs, recommending that the word "amount," in Ans. to Ques. 6, on page 100, of Discipline, Chap. 2, Sec. 15, be stricken out, and the "answer" be so amended that the paragraph shall read:

"*Ans.* To attend the District Stewards' meeting for the purpose of estimating the traveling expenses of the Presiding Elder, and to apportion the same and such other amounts as are to be raised on the District among the several charges; and to report the same to his Quarterly Conference and Board of Stewards." With this recommendation your committee *concur*.

2. A paper signed P. A. Peterson, J. E. Edwards, and others, providing for reërrangement of the business of Quarterly Conferences.

Resolved, That the following Order of Business in Quarterly Conferences be substituted for that now contained in the Book of Discipline, from item "1st." in the general "Ans." to Ques. 5, Chap. 2, Sec. 4, p. 53, to Sec. 5, on p. 55, viz:

1. Are there any appeals?
2. Are there any complaints?

3. Is there a written report from the preacher in charge of the number and state of the Sunday-schools, and of the pastoral instruction of children?

4. Is there a written report from the preacher in charge on the general state of the Church?

(Let this report embrace the names of those baptized, or in any other way received into the Church, and of those who have died, removed, withdrawn, or have been expelled during the quarter.)

5. What amount has been estimated by the Board of Stewards for the support of the preacher in charge (and his assistant) for the year? [1 or 2]

6. What amounts have been apportioned to this charge by the District Stewards—

(1) For Presiding Elder?

(2) For Bishops?

(3) For Conference claimants?

7. What amount has been raised the present quarter for the support of the ministry, and how has it been applied?

(Let the answer to this question embrace only the sums raised and paid on the claims of the Presiding Elder and the preacher.)

8. What has been raised the present quarter for other objects?

(Let the answer to this question embrace the sums raised for all other purposes, not included by the preceding report.)

9. Who are elected Stewards for the ensuing Conference-year? [4]

10. Who is elected Recording Steward? [4]

11. Who is elected District Steward? [4]

12. Are there any reports from the Trustees of Church-property? [4]

13. Who are elected to fill vacancies in Boards of Trustees?

14. Are there any applications for license to preach or exhort?

15. Are there any applications for recommendations to the Annual Conference to be admitted or readmitted on trial into the traveling connection? [4]

16. What local preachers are recommended to the Annual Conference for ordination? [4]

17. Have the local preachers and exhorters passed in examination of character, and have their licenses been renewed?

18. Is there a Church Register belonging to the charge, and has it been faithfully kept? [4]

19. Have the General Rules been read?

20. What is doing for the cause of missions?

21. Is there any miscellaneous business?

22. Where shall the next session of the Quarterly Conference be held?

(At the fourth Quarterly Conference let the report of the full statistics be called for that are to be reported at the ensuing Annual Conference.)

Questions marked [1 or 2] [4] are to be asked only at the Quarterly Conferences indicated by the number.

Item 3. The recommendation of "the Address of the Bishops," that the word "one," on page 80, Chap. 3, Sec. 7, Ques. 2, Ans. 1, be stricken out, and that "two" be put in lieu thereof, so that the amended paragraph shall read:

"Ans. No one shall be elected and ordained who has not been *two* years in the regular itinerant work, except such as may be selected by the Bishop for missionary work, when the Annual Conference shall have authority to elect to the deacon's office sooner, if the Conference judge it expedient."

And also, that the word "one" on page 81, Chap. 3, Sec. 7, in Ans. to Ques. 2, be stricken out, and "two" inserted, so that the paragraph, as amended, shall read:

"Ans. Every traveling deacon shall have been elected a deacon for *two* years before he be eligible to the office of elder; except in the case of missionaries, when the Annual Conference shall have authority to elect to the elder's office sooner, if the Conference judge it expedient." With this recommendation your committee *concur*.

4. A paper proposing to substitute the word "two" for "six," on page 39, Chap. 2, Sec. 2, in Ans. to Ques. 1; so that the paragraph, as amended, shall read:

"2. The lay members shall be chosen annually by the District Conferences: *provided*, that no one shall be a representative who is not twenty-five years of age, and who has not been for *two* years, next preceding his election, a member of the Church." In recommending this proposition your committee *concur*.

5. In respect of a memorial from Edenton St. Charles Church, Raleigh, N. C., relating to the spiritual state of children, your committee deem any legislation whatever *entirely unnecessary*.

6. With a memorial from the Mississippi Conference requiring that candidates for Church-membership shall be asked whether they will abstain from intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and from the sale thereof, except for medical or sacramental purposes, your committee recommend *non-concurrence*.

7. With sundry memorials recommending the Church records to be

sent to Quarterly Conferences for inspection, your committee do *not* concur.

8. With a paper signed by J. H. McLean and J. M. Binkley, proposing but one Board of Trustees for each circuit, your committee recommend *non-concurrence*.

9. With a memorial from Virginia Conference recommending that trustees be *not* members of Quarterly Conferences, by virtue of office, your committee do *not* concur.

10. With a resolution of J. W. Whitten and A. West, recommending that Ans. 8, of Ques. 4, Chap. 3, Sec. 4, p. 53, be so changed as to read, "To see that all its proceedings be faithfully recorded by a secretary," etc., your committee do *not* concur.

11. With the resolution of O. J. Moore and others, that traveling preachers be allowed to vote in the election of lay delegates, your committee recommend *non-concurrence*.

12. On the subject of District Trustees, referred to your committee by two papers from the South Carolina Conference, we offer for adoption the following items to be put into the Discipline on page 101, Chap. 3, Sec. 16, after Ans. to Ques. 1, viz:

"2. Trustees for District property may be appointed by the Quarterly Conference of the circuit or station where such property is located; or if in a city where there are two or more pastoral charges, by the Quarterly Conference which the Presiding Elder may designate. The Presiding Elder shall have the right of nomination, subject to confirmation or rejection by the Quarterly Conference."

Next—Add to item "4," page 102: "3. Where a District Board of Trustees is appointed by a Quarterly Conference, such Board shall hold the same relations in all respects to the Conferences so appointing." Furthermore, that after item "4," page 102, this item be inserted:

"4. When two or more circuits or stations shall be united, the Board of Trustees shall, by such action, be considered dissolved; and the Quarterly Conference of the new circuit or station shall appoint a Board of Trustees, as provided for in Ans. 1 to Ques. 1 of this Section."

Then let the notation of Sec. 16, pages 101, 102, be conformed to these additions.

13. Memorial from Virginia Conference in respect of establishing District schools, is respectfully returned to the General Conference, with a request that it be referred to the Committee on Education.

14. A resolution of J. L. de Yampert and others, which recom-

mends to insert on page 73, Chap. 3, Sec. 4, after paragraph 15, and change notations, the following:

"16. To make a written report of the condition of all the claimants on the Conference collection within his pastoral charge, at each Annual Conference, to be submitted to the Joint Board of Finance;" is by your committee *concurrent* in.

15. With a resolution of F. W. Earnest and W. G. E. Cunnyngnam, that paragraph 15, page 73, be so changed as to require that a statement of Sunday-schools, scholars, etc., in each circuit, etc., be subject to Quarterly Conference revision, your committee recommend *non-concurrence*.

16. With a memorial from North Georgia Conference, asking that candidates for Church-membership be required to meet in class once a week for three months, and give satisfactory evidence to the leader of their desire to "flee from the wrath to come," your committee recommend that you do *not* concur.

17. The petition of Columbia District Conference, South Carolina Conference, touching the appointment, duty, and relation of a District Steward, has been heard, and your committee recommend that the prayer be *not* answered.

18. A resolution of the Arkansas Conference which recommends that the General Conference so amend the Book of Discipline, page 100, Chap. 3, Sec. 15, Ans. to Ques. 5, as to read: "And to have the same at the Quarterly Conference." Paragraph as amended:

"Ans. To preserve the records of the Quarterly Conference and report to the Joint Board of Finance of the Annual Conference a full account of the acts of his Board of Stewards, the preceding year, *and to have the same at the Quarterly Conference.*" With this recommendation your committee *concur*.

19. A memorial from South Carolina Conference relating to the manner of withdrawal from our Church, and a resolution of T. Y. Ramsey and A. C. Allen requesting that the Secretary of an Annual Conference give a probationer, when discontinued, a certificate, have been also considered, and it is recommended that you do *not* concur.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN W. HANNER, Chairman.

F. H. Smith, lay delegate of the Virginia Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence after to-day.

The Chair then called for petitions, memorials, and appeals.

L. Pierce, N. H. D. Wilson, and others, offered a resolution asking authority for a Bishop and Annual Conference to appoint a preacher

beyond the bounds of the Annual Conference. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

J. W. Hinton, H. A. C. Walker, and W. S. Black, offered a resolution favoring an amendment of the Discipline in regard to the division of the Stewards' collections between the Presiding Elders and preachers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

T. W. Moore and S. Woodbery offered a resolution in regard to Quarterly Conference Reports. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A. A. Coleman and A. R. Winfield offered a resolution favoring a change in the pastoral term. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

H. H. Montgomery and W. P. Barton offered a resolution on the boundaries of the Mississippi and North Mississippi Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

H. H. Montgomery and C. G. Andrews offered a resolution on the establishing of a mission in Guatemala. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

Also, a resolution favoring Episcopal visitations to China. Referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the President and Secretary of the Board of Missions be, and they are hereby, requested to lay before the Committee on Missions what information they may have in relation to the operations of our brother, the Rev. Mr. Newman and his Methodist people in the Province of Santo Paulo, in the southern portion of the Empire of Brazil; and that said committee be instructed to consider and report on the propriety of establishing a mission in said province.

F. E. PITTS,

J. E. EVANS.

W. M. Leftwich, W. M. Rush, and A. T. Scruggs, offered a resolution in regard to the expediency of establishing branch houses for the sale of our publications. Referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

C. I. Vandeventer, W. M. Rush, and James L. Davis, offered a resolution favoring a law prescribing the duties of District Conference Secretaries and Recording Stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. H. McLean and J. M. Binkley offered a resolution on the boundaries of Trinity and Louisiana Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on Itinerancy, laid on the table

Saturday, May 9, was taken up. On motion of J. E. Evans, item 1 was amended by striking out "German Mission Conference of the M. E. Church, South," and inserting "The German Mission Conference of Texas and Louisiana."

A motion of W. M. Rush to strike out the word "not" in item 3 was lost.

The report as amended was adopted.

On motion of W. Shapard, the following communication of the Bishops, laid on the table under the rules Thursday, May 7, was taken up and adopted:

REPLY TO THE REQUEST MADE OF THE COLLEGE OF BISHOPS IN THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, REFERRED TO YESTERDAY, MAY 6.

"*Resolved*, That the Bishops be requested to consider the subject of the election and ordination of native-born missionaries in foreign stations, and suggest to this Conference what legislation, if any, is necessary on this subject."

The Bishops recommend that the following Ques. and Ans. be inserted in the Discipline at the bottom of page 82:

Ques. 4. What shall be done in the case of missionaries and native preachers in foreign lands, where there is no Annual Conference?

Ans. The Bishop in charge of the Mission shall have authority to ordain to the office of deacon and elder, on the recommendation of the superintendent and resident missionary; or, if there be none, at his discretion.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on Boundaries, laid on the table Friday, May 8, was taken up and acted upon item by item. Item 1 was adopted.

Item 2 was read, and F. M. Kennedy moved that it be stricken out.

On motion of P. Tuggle, the motion to strike out was laid on the table, and the item was adopted.

Items 3 and 4 were adopted.

Item 5 was read. R. H. Powell moved to postpone till to-morrow. It was not postponed.

On motion of J. H. Brigham, the last vote was reconsidered, and on motion of J. E. Evans the item was laid on the table for the present.

Item 6 was taken up, and the following substitute, offered by A. Adams, F. E. Adams, E. K. Miller, and George Sim, was adopted:

The undersigned beg to offer the following as an amendment to Report No. 1 of the Committee on Boundaries: That the line of the

Pacific and Los Angeles Conferences be the line dividing the counties of Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Kerne, and Tulare, to the point intersecting the present line of the Los Angeles Conference, and thence easterly, without farther change of boundary line.

The farther consideration of the report was postponed.

T. Christian, lay delegate of the Mississippi Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence after to-day.

S. Bobo, lay delegate of the South Carolina delegation, was placed on the Committee of Nine on Fraternal Greetings, in place of F. H. Smith, of the Virginia delegation.

G. B. Hester, lay delegate of the Indian Mission Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence after to day. Also W. R. Webb, lay delegate of the Tennessee Conference.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Secretary.

Tuesday Morning, May 12, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour. Bishop Paine in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by E. E. Wiley.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Pierce took the chair, and called for reports of standing committees.

J. E. Edwards, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 2 of said committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:-

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 2.

1. The paper signed A. A. Coleman and A. R. Winfield, asking for a change in the Discipline limiting the appointment of preachers to circuits or stations to *two years* successively, has been considered, and the committee unanimously concur in recommending that the change be *not* made.

2. The resolution from the North Georgia Conference requesting the insertion in the Discipline of a provision "empowering the presiding Bishop of an Annual Conference to appoint one or more *evangelists* to travel at large within the bounds of said Conference," has received the careful attention of the committee, and by a decided majority they recommend *non-concurrence*.

3. The resolution signed by W. M. Leftwich and A. T. Scruggs, asking for an expression of opinion as to the *legality* of "continuing an effective traveling preacher ten or fifteen years in one pastoral charge by the appointment of Bishops and Presiding Elders," has

been considered, and the committee recommend that, as the paper relates to the administration of the Bishops, it be respectfully referred to the Committee on Episcopacy. JOHN E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

T. J. Magruder, Chairman of the Committee on Sunday-schools, presented Report No. 3 of the said committee, which was read, discussed, and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 3.

The Sunday-school Committee submit the following as Report No. 3:

1. On the memorial from North Alabama, asking for a uniform method of conducting Sunday-schools, the committee deem it inexpedient to enact any rule.

2. The committee has considered the memorial of Messrs. Gillett and Joyce, praying the General Conference to define more definitely the relation of the pastor to the Sunday-school, beg leave to refer the memorialists to the Discipline, in which we think this relation is clearly settled.

3. The resolution of Messrs. Fleming and Hiner, asking for two volumes of Catechisms, one on the History, and the other on the Economy, of the M. E. Church, South, was respectfully considered, and the committee decide that it is inexpedient at present.

4. Resolutions were referred to the committee in reference to the International Uniform Text, and also in reference to the character of the lessons in Our Little People. The committee submit the following:

Resolved, 1. That we recommend the continuance of the present system, inaugurated by our Sunday-school Secretary.

Resolved, 2. That we request our Sunday-school Secretary to continue Our Little People, but we ask him to simplify the lessons, and give them in the form of question and answer.

T. J. MAGRUDER, Chairman.

Also Report No. 4 of said committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 4.

Various resolutions in reference to the catechetical instruction of our children have been considered, and the following report is submitted:

Resolved, 1. That Ans. 4, p. 114, of Discipline, to the question, "What directions are given concerning Sunday-schools?" be stricken from the book, and the following be substituted as the answer:

The Superintendents of our Sunday-schools shall see that our infant

classes are faithfully instructed in Capers's Catechism, No. 1, and that the Wesleyan series be used after that by the different classes, according to their advancement.

Resolved, 2. That the answer on page 114, now marked 3, be put last in order, and be marked 4, and the new answer be marked 3.

T. J. MAGRUDER, Chairman.

Trusten Polk, Chairman of the Committee on Education, presented Report No. 1 of said committee, which was read, discussed, and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, NO. 1.

To the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South.

RESPECTED AND BELOVED BRETHREN:—Your Committee on Education have had under consideration the resolutions of the Missouri Conference, and also the memorial of the West St. Louis Conference, and, after full deliberation thereon, they recommend that the measures proposed by them be not adopted.

And as to the memorial of the North Alabama Conference, the committee have instructed its Chairman to report to this body the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we do not concur in the memorial presented by the North Alabama Conference, but in lieu thereof, recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That this General Conference earnestly recommend that hereafter in the management of our institutions of learning, the majority of the managers should, in every case, be members of the M. E. Church, South—so far as the laws of the different States allow—and our brethren are hereby requested to look carefully to this point in selecting the officers and trustees of such institutions.

And as to the memorial of the Fayette District Conference, of the Missouri Conference, while this committee concur in the sentiments and wishes therein expressed as to the great importance of a general and thorough system of Christian and denominational education, yet they cannot recommend this Conference to adopt the plan and measures indicated in the memorial.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

TRUSTEN POLK, Chairman.

Capt. Pinckney Varbel, through E. W. Schon, extended an invitation to the Conference to take an excursion on his steamboat at 5 P.M. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

W. C. Johnson, Chairman of the Committee on Books and Periodicals, presented Report No. 2 of said committee, which was read.

W. J. Scott, W. G. Coe, C. M. Miller, and J. F. White, offered the following substitute, which was read, discussed, and laid on the table:

“Resolved, That the Book Agent and Book Committee be instructed to avoid all increase of the present liabilities of the Publishing House, except such as are indispensable to the completion of the new Publishing House, and the proper carrying on of its regular business.”

H. F. Johnson and C. G. Andrews offered the following amendment:

“Provided that the transfer shall not be made if the debts and liabilities of our Publishing House shall thereby be increased.”

On motion of E. E. Wiley, the question was then put; and the amendment was adopted.

The Report thus amended, was then adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 2.

Your committee to whom was recommitted Report No. 2, concerning the communication of Logan D. Dameron, proposing negotiations for the transfer of the property of the South-western Book and Publishing Company, at St. Louis, to the Southern Methodist Publishing House, have again duly considered their report; and with it they have also considered the amendment referred to them, offered by C. I. Vandeventer and A. H. Redford, in these words:

“Provided that the Book Agent and Book Committee take no steps toward effecting the proposed transfer of property without the consent of the patronizing Conferences.”

In view of the fact that the property, being owned by stockholders, can be transferred without the consent of “the patronizing Conferences,” your committee do not think that the above proviso should be accepted by them, or adopted by the General Conference.

Your committee perfectly understand that the financial condition of the Publishing House at this time would not warrant the purchase of the property at St. Louis. But this difficulty perhaps may be obviated by future events, and particularly by the terms of the transfer.

The following resolution is offered again for adoption by the General Conference, viz.:

Resolved, That the Book Agent, with the Book Committee, be authorized to negotiate for the transfer of the property of the South-western Book and Publishing Company, at St. Louis, to the Southern

Methodist Publishing House, if such transfer can be effected without damage to the publishing interests of the Church: *provided* that the transfer shall not be made if the debts and liabilities of our Publishing House shall thereby be increased.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. JOHNSON, Chairman.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on Finance, in relation to the support of the ministry, was presented by Milton Brown, Chairman of said committee, which was read, and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, NO. 1.

Whereas "The Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel;" and whereas the duty of providing for the support of the ministry properly devolves on the lay membership of the Church, and it is their duty, as far as possible, to relieve the preachers of the gospel from the necessity of making public collections—a thing always disagreeable and embarrassing to those who have an eye single to the care of souls and not of money—and sometimes impairing their influence for good, by giving the wicked an opportunity of appealing to popular prejudice by insinuations and charges of sordid motives, your Committee of Finance, *composed entirely of lay members*, has had this subject under advisement as a matter of great importance to the advancement of our holy religion.

At our first interview as a committee, we had among ourselves a great variety of opinions as to the best mode of making collections for the support of the ministry, growing chiefly out of personal experience and local usages. We had all, or nearly all of us, at some period of our lives been stewards; and each one of us was inclined to think that the plan of collection to which he had been accustomed was the best. We listened to various plans, and the experience of those who had worked under them, and found that no plan could be presented to which no objections could be raised.

But we all agreed that our present disciplinary plan is defective:

1. The Discipline does not declare with sufficient force of language the duty of every member to contribute to the support of the ministry.

2. It does not declare with sufficient force and energy of language the obligation resting on those who, at the beginning of the Conference-year, agree to pay given amounts and then fail to keep their promises, leaving others to save the credit of the Church by paying what they have promised and then failed to pay.

To remedy this, in as mild a form as possible, the committee *unani-*

mously recommend the adoption of the following clause to be added to the Discipline—to Chap. 9, on page 145, add:

“4. Each member of the Church is expected to pay according to his (or her) several ability for the support of the ministry; and the Stewards of each station or circuit shall determine whether payments are to be made weekly, monthly, or quarterly, during the year. They shall then ascertain how much each member is able and willing to pay in the installments fixed by the Stewards; and whatever amount each member agrees to pay, he (or she) shall be under solemn obligation to pay, and can only be released from this obligation by the order of the Stewards, or by vote of the Church Conference, for good cause shown.”

MILTON BROWN, Chairman.

B. Craven, from the Special Committee on the Claims of the Publishing House against the United States Government, presented the report of said committee, which was read.

A motion of W. H. Potter to recommit the report was, on motion of L. M. Lee, laid on the table.

A motion of H. F. Johnson to postpone was, on motion of J. L. de Yampert, laid on the table.

Resolution 1 was amended by substituting for “Rev. R. Abbey, D.D.,” “The Commission appointed by the General Conference of 1870.”

Resolution 2, “That R. Abbey, D.D., is hereby appointed a Commissioner, on behalf of the Book Agent of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and with the advice of the Book Agent, has full power to do all things necessary and proper in prosecuting said claim; and the Book Agent is hereby authorized to receive whatever sum of money the Government of the United States may pay, and to receipt for the same,” was read; and W. H. Potter offered as a substitute, “that the Commission appointed by the General Conference of 1870 be continued.”

On motion of H. H. Montgomery, the substitute was laid on the table.

On motion of H. A. C. Walker and J. E. Edwards, the following substitute was adopted:

“*Resolved*, That the Commission appointed in 1870 be, and hereby is, continued; that the Commission be composed of A. L. P. Green and A. H. Redford; and that the employment of Rev. R. Abbey, by the Commission as its Agent, meets the approval and receives the sanction of the General Conference; and that he be continued as Agent to prosecute the claim in question.”

The Report, as thus amended, was adopted, as follows :

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CLAIM OF THE PUBLISHING
HOUSE AGAINST THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

Your committee have with patience and care examined the substance of the claim, the nature of the testimony by which it is supported, the course pursued and the results achieved by the Commission appointed by the General Conference of 1870, and the opinion, both of the Commission and their counsel, as to the final result. In our opinion, the claim has been justly and clearly presented, the Commissioners have discharged their duty wisely and faithfully, and we have good reason to believe that the Publishing House will receive proper compensation for the loss sustained, at no distant day. The apparent delay does not, in our opinion, arise from any indisposition on the part of the Government to admit and pay our claim, but from the immense amount of business in the department to which it is referred, and from the numerous and varied investigations incident to all such matters.

The following resolutions are recommended for adoption by the Conference :

Resolved, 1. That, by the occupation of the Southern Methodist Publishing House, in the city of Nashville, by the authorities of the United States, from 1862 to 1865, inclusive, a just claim has inured to the Publishing House for rents, damages, printing material, and other property, pressed into the service of the United States; which claim has been fairly and justly presented by the Commission appointed by the General Conference of 1870.

Resolved, 2. That the Commission appointed in 1870 be, and hereby is, continued; that the Commission be composed of A. L. P. Green and A. H. Redford; and that the employment of Rev. R. Abbey, by the Commission as its Agent, meets the approval and receives the sanction of the General Conference; and that he be continued as Agent to prosecute the claim in question.

JAMES JACKSON, Chairman

A motion of H. J. Adams to prolong the session fifteen minutes, was lost.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Wednesday Morning, May 13, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Pierce in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by J. P. Duncan.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Kavanaugh took the chair.

On motion of H. J. Adams, the Rules were suspended to allow of the presentation of a paper to be referred to the Bishops.

The paper was read and referred, as follows:

Be it resolved by the delegates of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in General Conference assembled, that the Bishops be requested to address a pastoral letter to our people, bringing prominently before them the social meetings of the Church; presenting their advantages and urging attendance upon them; setting forth the true meaning and intention of the General Conference of 1866, by its action respecting class-meetings; and, that in this address the obligation of every member of the Church to fast, to pray, to read the Holy Scriptures; and, of every head of a family, or of a household, to observe family prayer, be plainly, affectionately, yet earnestly enforced; also, that they direct the attention of the preachers and the laity to the frequent and increasing violation of that rule of the Discipline which forbids "the taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus," and make known to all who are entrusted with the administration of the rules and regulations of the Church, that this General Conference is profoundly convinced of the fact that a very important work now to be done by Bishops, Presiding Elders, preachers in charge, leaders, and stewards, is to unite in a patient, earnest, prayerful, faithful, judicious administration of Church discipline.

| | |
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| H. J. ADAMS, | JAMES H. JOHNSON, |
| L. PIERCE, | MORRIS K. TAYLOR, |
| J. C. WILLS, | J. W. WHITTEN, |
| H. A. BOURLAND, | J. W. GAUT, |
| SAMUEL RODGETS, | R. W. JONES, |
| NELSON HEAD, | W. M. LEFTWICH, |
| A. W. WILSON, | N. HANDY, |
| R. L. ANDERSON, | W. F. COOK, |
| JAMES JACKSON, | C. M. NOAN, |
| W. J. SCOTT, | I. M. BEALL, |
| J. B. HUNNICUTT, | W. H. BOBBITT, |
| L. D. PALMER, | F. C. ROBBINS, |
| C. P. CRAWFORD, | G. B. HESTER, |
| J. D. ANTHONY, | A. G. HAYGOOD. |

A. G. Haygood presented a communication from Jesse Boring, of the North Georgia Conference, referring to the Orphans' Home, also a resolution signed A. G. Haygood, T. M. Meriwether, S. Anthony,

J. Jackson, W. H. Fleming, and F. M. Kennedy, requesting the Committee on Revisal to inquire into the expediency of inserting in the Discipline the action taken by the General Conference of 1870, on the subject of orphans' homes.

L. M. Lee, Chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, returned a paper from the said committee in regard to an episcopal visit to China; which was transferred to the Committee on Missions.

A. W. Boyd, lay delegate from Holston Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence on account of sickness.

J. H. Thompson, lay delegate from Mississippi Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence.

H. W. Foote, lay delegate from North Mississippi Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence for two days.

R. Pollard, lay delegate from Virginia Conference; T. J. S. Kimbrough, lay delegate from Alabama Conference; B. A. Philpott, lay delegate from North-west Texas Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence.

E. A. Martin was appointed in the place of B. A. Philpott, on the Committee on Boundaries.

J. W. Hanner, Chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 3 of that committee, which was read; and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, NO. 3.

After due inquiry and deliberation concerning various papers and resolutions referred to them, your committee offer the following conclusions:

1. A paper signed by C. Long and J. W. Gaut, proposing that Ques. 5, p. 54, Sec. 4, Chap. 2, be omitted, and made item 2 under Ques. 4, was indefinitely postponed.

2. A paper presented by G. A. Dannelly and others, on the order of business in Quarterly Conferences, was laid on the table.

3. An elaborate paper signed by J. C. A. Clark and J. W. Hinton, was taken up, item by item, thoroughly considered, and, excepting three items which were laid on the table, your committee recommend *non-concurrence*.

4. The resolution of P. Tuggle and H. W. Foote, proposing to affix the word "South" to the Mississippi Conference, was read, and returned to the General Conference with the request that it be referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

5. With a resolution of J. Wickersham and G. A. Dannelly, recom-

mending that Recording Stewards be *ex officio* members of District Conferences; also, of J. L. de Yampert and R. H. Powell, to change the form of certificate on pages 73 and 74, your committee do *not* concur.

6. A resolution of P. A. Peterson and J. E. Evans, recommending that the following, adopted by the General Conference of 1836, be put into the Discipline, and added to Ans. 6, under Ques. 4, Sec. 4, Chap. 2, p. 53, viz:

"No recommendation from a Quarterly Conference to an Annual Conference shall be of any force, after the session of the Annual Conference next following the grant of such recommendation."

With this your committee *concur*.

7. With a resolution of O. J. Moore and others, to strike out all after the word "except," on page 38, paragraph 3, *i. e.*, "Such as involves ministerial character," your committee, *nem. con.*, do *not* concur.

8. After considering the paper presented by J. E. Evans and G. A. Dannelly, in relation to persons holding certificates of Church-membership, your committee recommend that the following item be inserted after the form of certificate, pages 73 and 74, Chap. 3, Sec. 4, paragraph 16:

"This certificate shall not be valid after twelve months, unless the holder show good cause why it was not sooner presented." Paragraph as amended: "The bearer hereof, A. B., has been an acceptable member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in C. Station (circuit or mission), D. Conference. This certificate shall not be valid after twelve months, unless the holder show good cause why it was not sooner presented."

9. With the resolution of C. Pope and S. M. McGehee, recommending that Sec. 1, Chap. 2, Ans. to Ques. 1, p. 32, be so changed as to read, instead of "one-fourth of whom," "one or more of whom," your committee do *not* concur.

10. The resolution of W. H. Fleming and A. Hunter, proposing to make the representative of an appellant a member of the Quarterly Conference, was read, and reported back to the General Conference with the request that it be referred to the Committee on Church Trials.

Respectfully submitted. JOHN W. HANNER, Chairman.

A resolution referred to that committee was transferred to the Committee on Boundaries; and another was transferred to the Committee on Church Trials.

J. B. McFerrin, Chairman of the Committee on Temperance, pre-

sented the Report of that committee; W. Price, J. H. Stone, and H. F. Johnson, of said committee, presented a Minority Report No. 1; and W. A. McCarty, J. J. Wheat, and F. A. Connor, presented Minority Report No. 2 from said committee. All three reports were read, and laid on the table under the rules. They are as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

The Committee on Temperance beg leave to report that they have considered the memorial of the South Georgia Conference requesting the General Conference "to define or, if necessary, to enlarge the law of the Church on the subject of the distillation and sale of spirituous liquors;" the memorial of the Memphis Conference on "the manufacture and sale of alcoholic liquors;" the resolution of the Lexington District Conference; the resolution of the Mexico District Conference, Missouri; the memorial of the Baltimore Conference asking "the restoration of Mr. Wesley's original rule on temperance;" the memorial from Walker county, Georgia; and the resolution offered by Daniel Morse and L. V. Greer; and offer for adoption by the General Conference, the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the General Rules, Chap. 1, Sec. 2, p. 27, of the Book of Discipline, be so altered that instead of "drunkenness or drinking spirituous liquors, unless in cases of necessity," it shall read, as follows:

"Drunkenness or drinking spirituous liquors, unless in cases of necessity, or making, buying, or selling them to be so used."

Respectfully submitted.

J. B. McFERRIN, Chairman.

MINORITY REPORT ON TEMPERANCE, NO. 1.

Strike out of the General Rules the following clause of the Discipline, page 27, which is as follows:

"Drunkenness or drinking spirituous liquors, unless in cases of necessity." Then substitute the following:

"Making, buying, selling, or using, as a beverage, intoxicating liquors."

W. PRICE,

JOHN H. STONE,

H. F. JOHNSON.

MINORITY REPORT ON TEMPERANCE, NO. 2.

We, the undersigned, minority of the Committee on Temperance, dissenting from the majority report, beg leave to present the following:

Whereas the General Rules of our Church, and the moral code of the New Testament, condemn, by fair implication, the manufacture

and sale of spirituous liquors to be used as a beverage ; and whereas the College of Bishops, with entire unanimity, holds the opinion that the existing law is all sufficient for the arraignment and expulsion of offenders ; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the existing law is sufficient, and that we need no farther legislation on this question.

W. A. McCARTY,

J. J. WHEAT,

F. A. CONNOR.

J. M. McTeer, C. Long, and E. E. Wiley, offered a resolution in regard to the supervision of Cherokee Indians. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

C. Long and J. M. McTeer offered a resolution on the boundaries of the Holston and North Georgia Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

A resolution of J. S. Geiger, J. E. Brodwater, and R. L. Bickel, to adjourn *sine die*, May 21, was laid on the table.

L. S. Burkhead and J. M. McTeer offered a resolution referring to the boundary between North Carolina and Holston Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

A resolution of A. C. Allen and others to adjourn May 20, was laid on the table.

A resolution of J. S. Geiger and T. C. Frogge, referring to District Conferences and lay representation, was referred to the Committee on Revisal.

H. F. Johnson and H. H. Montgomery offered a resolution on Episcopal Districts. Referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

W. Downtain, A. R. Winfield, T. S. Wade, and P. A. Peterson, offered a resolution on Church trials. Referred to the Committee on Church Trials.

H. H. Montgomery and H. F. Johnson offered a resolution on establishing a mission among the Choctaw Indians in the Mississippi Conference. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

W. Downtain, R. Hiner, M. Evans, and J. W. Fitch, offered a resolution on the boundary between the Kentucky and Western Virginia Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

G. A. Dannelly and James Mackey offered a resolution on changes of Discipline. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. H. McLean, W. Howeth, J. M. Binkley, and M. H. Neely, offered a resolution favoring the change of the name of "Trinity Conference" to "North Texas Conference." Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

A. A. Coleman, J. Hamilton, and R. H. Powell, offered a resolution asking for a change in the Discipline, in Ans. 1, Ques. 2, Chap. 2. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

M. Evans and R. Hiner offered a resolution on the publication of blank forms for statistics. Referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

E. K. Miller and G. Sim offered a resolution favoring the establishing of a mission to the Chinese in San Francisco. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

G. M. Winton and G. M. Jones offered a resolution asking for the appropriation of \$1,000 for the circulation of Dr. Haygood's Essay on Missions. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

A resolution of C. G. Smith and T. M. N. Jones, favoring afternoon sessions after to-day, was laid on the table.

W. C. Johnson presented advance sheets of a new work now passing through the press of the Publishing House at Nashville, entitled, "A Manual of Architecture for Churches, Parsonages, and School-houses, containing Designs, Elevations, Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract, Rules for Estimating Cost of Building, with Suggestions on Acoustics, Ventilation, Heating, Lighting, Painting, etc.," by W. M. Patterson, of the Memphis Conference.

An invitation from Mr. W. C. De Pauw to the Conference to visit the Star Glass Works, New Albany, Ind., was presented by J. S. Lithgow, and accepted with thanks.

The following resolution was offered, read, and, on motion of the movers, was laid on the table for one day:

Resolved, That the Discipline, Chap. 2, Sec. 4, pp. 54, 55, be so amended as to read, "What amount has been raised during the present quarter for the payment of the *salary* of the ministers?"

LEROY M. LEE,

P. A. PETERSON.

J. E. Evans offered a resolution, "That all matters to be referred to Committees be presented by to-morrow," and J. E. Edwards offered an amendment, "Except such papers as may be referred by special order of the Conference." Both were laid on the table.

J. Jackson and Trusten Polk offered the following preamble and resolution, which was read and adopted by a rising vote:

Whereas, The message of love and brotherly kindness from the Methodist Episcopal Church has been cordially received, and has been referred to a committee of nine, who, in due time, will formally and fraternally reply thereto;

Resolved, That we regret that the distinguished messengers sent by that Church cannot remain to await the presentation and reception of that report; but understanding that they leave us to-day, we are unwilling that they shall return home without carrying with them the knowledge of our appreciation of their Christian, courteous, and fraternal bearing among us, and our wishes and prayers for their future happiness and prosperity.

The Chair brought forward the Revs. Drs. Hunt and Fowler, who made impressive parting addresses to the Conference, expressing sentiments of the highest regard, which were warmly reciprocated by the Conference.

On motion of Trusten Polk, the Secretary was instructed to furnish the delegation with a copy of the resolution as adopted.

W. J. Stafford, lay delegate from Arkansas Conference, was put on the Committee on Finance in place of J. H. Mann, and on the Committee on Temperance in place of I. L. Burrow.

On motion of Trusten Polk, Report No. 1 of the Committee on Boundaries was taken up.

A. West moved that the fifth item be adopted.

A. E. Williams moved to amend by striking out the word "not," and adding the words, "provided the same be submitted to the members of Oak Bowery Circuit for their concurrence or non-concurrence."

On motion of R. Alexander, the amendment was laid on the table.

M. S. Andrews moved, as a substitute, "that the prayer of the memorialists be granted."

On motion of F. E. Pitts, the motion was laid on the table.

After considerable discussion, the item was adopted.

On motion of E. W. Sehon, the session was prolonged fifteen minutes.

Professor McIntosh was introduced by the Bishop to the Conference. He led the Conference in singing several beautiful pieces in the new Hymn and Tune Book, published by order of the General Conference of 1870.

The Conference then adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Thursday Morning, May 14, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour. Bishop Kavanaugh in the chair. Religious exercises were conducted by Morris Evans.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Wightman took the chair.

S. M. McGehee, lay delegate from Little Rock Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence after May 20.

J. P. Strother, lay delegate from the West St. Louis Conference, and D'Arcy Paul, lay delegate from the Virginia Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence.

Thomas Metcalf, lay delegate from Western Conference, asked for leave of absence for a few days. Leave was not granted.

Bishop Paine, in a few well-timed words, deprecated the retirement of members from the Conference.

The Chair then called for reports of standing committees.

John E. Edwards, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 3 of said committee, which was read and adopted as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 3.

1. All the papers relating to the Presiding Eldership, and to the number of circuits and stations allowable in a Presiding Elder's District, coming up from various sources in the form of resolutions, signed by leading clerical and lay members of the General Conference, have been carefully examined and patiently considered by the committee, and after the most mature deliberation, with remarkable unanimity (considering the number of resolutions submitted to the committee), we recommend that no change be made in the existing law and regulations relating to the subject.

2. The memorial from the St. Louis Annual Conference, instructing their delegates to the General Conference "to oppose all farther extension of the pastoral term;" and the memorial from the Baltimore Annual Conference, instructing their delegates to the General Conference to oppose any measure in the way of General Conference action that "might tend, in any way, to impair the fundamental basis of our peculiar Church government, or modify the method of her instrumental activities," have received the respectful attention of the committee, with the conclusion that no recommendation to the Conference is deemed necessary, other than the notice hereby submitted, touching these memorials.

JOHN E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

W. G. E. Cunnyingham, Chairman of the Committee on Missions, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 1.

Your committee have had under careful review the whole field of missionary operations connected with our Church; they have exam-

ined the "Annual Report of the Secretary," and the proceedings of the Board of Missions for the past four years. Every department of the work has been thoroughly explored, and its condition and wants carefully considered.

While some parts of our missionary machinery have not worked as well as could be desired, we consider this due to organic defects in the Constitution rather than to any want of fidelity or energy in the agents employed. Our investigations have discovered nothing wrong in the proceedings of the Board, or in the administration of its affairs by the Secretary.

We have revised and endeavored so to change the Constitution as to adapt it more perfectly to the character of our missionary work; in this we have found great difficulty, and may not have succeeded. As few changes as possible have been made—such only as the experience of the last four years seemed to demand. The Constitution, as revised, and which we now submit for your adoption, is as follows:

Chapter X.—Missions.

The missionary operations of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, shall hereafter be conducted under the following provisions and regulations:

ARTICLE I. There shall be a Board of Missions, which shall have charge of the Foreign Missions, and of all others not provided for by the Annual Conferences.

ART. II. Said Board shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and eleven Managers, to be elected quadrennially by the General Conference, and to continue in office until their successors are appointed. The Bishops shall be *ex officio* members of the Board.

ART. III. The Board shall have authority to regulate its own proceedings; to appropriate money to defray incidental expenses; to provide for the support of superannuated missionaries, and widows and orphans of missionaries, who may not be provided for by any Annual Conference; to print books for the Indian, German, and Foreign Missions; to build houses for worship, for schools, and for missionaries; and to defray the necessary expenses of the work under its care. It shall also publish annually a statement of its transactions, naming the missions supported by it, and the amount appropriated and paid to each, and lay before the General Conference a report of its operations.

ART. IV. The Board shall meet annually to determine what fields shall be occupied as missions, the number of persons to be employed

in each, and to estimate the amount that may be necessary for the support of the missions under its charge, and to divide the same among the several Annual Conferences—having reference in said division to the extent and importance of the domestic work in each Conference, and to the ability and disposition of the people to give.

ART. V. The Board shall employ only effective men for its work, and shall require each one to make a quarterly report to the Secretary of his operations, and of the state and prospects of the work in his charge.

ART. VI. The revenue of the Board shall be derived from annual collections in every congregation, and at District Conferences, and from collections in the Sunday-school and Church Missionary Societies, and from special collections by the Secretary and the Bishops, and from donations and legacies.

ART. VII. The Secretary shall be a minister of the gospel, and may be a member of any Annual Conference, but shall reside where the Board is located. It shall be his duty to keep a permanent record of the proceedings of the Board, and to publish an abstract of them in the Church-papers; to conduct its correspondence, to attend to all its legal business, to prepare its annual report, and to publish monthly (either in a missionary paper or in the Church-papers, as the Board shall direct), statements of the condition, needs, and prospects of the various missions. The salary of the Secretary shall be fixed by the Board, and all necessary traveling expenses shall be allowed.

ART. VIII. The Treasurer shall hold the funds of the Board in safe deposit, which deposit shall be made by him as Treasurer, subject to his drafts as such, and to those of his successors in office. He shall also furnish an annual report to be published with that of the Secretary.

ART. IX. The Board shall fill all vacancies that may occur.

ART. X. Nine members shall constitute a quorum at an annual meeting of the Board, and seven at a called meeting.

ART. XI. This Board shall be located in the city of —.

ART. XII. Each Annual Conference shall organize a Board of Missions which shall appoint its own officers and regulate its own affairs, and have absolute control of the Missions it may establish, with the consent of the President of the Conference, within its own bounds, and of the funds raised for their support.

ART. XIII. The Conference Board shall disseminate missionary intelligence among the people, hold an anniversary meeting at each session of the Conference, publish a full report of its operations every year in the Minutes of the Conference, and annually estimate the

amount that may be necessary for the support of its own Missions, and apportion the same to the Presiding Elders' Districts for collection.

ART. XIV. The apportionment to a Conference for the general work shall be divided by the Conference Board among the Districts, and the preachers in charge shall take up a collection in every congregation to meet the same.

ART. XV. Any person, or Sunday-school, or Church, or Conference, may assume, in whole or in part, the support of a mission or a mission-school established by the General Board, and send their contributions directly to such mission or school, of which the General Treasurer shall be immediately notified; *provided* that the Conference, in whose territory such moneys may be given, shall have credit for the same in settling the apportionment of the General Board.

ART. XVI. The collections for the Conference and General Boards shall not be taken up on the same day.

ART. XVII. The Treasurer of the Conference Board shall transmit to the Treasurer of the General Board all moneys he may receive for general purposes.

ART. XVIII. It shall be the duty of the Presiding Elder to bring the subject of Missions prominently before the Quarterly Conferences of each circuit and station, and to hold a missionary meeting during the session of the District Conference; and it shall be the duty of the preacher in charge to form a Missionary Society in every Sunday-school or Church of his work, and whatever moneys are raised in these Societies shall be exclusively for the General Board.

W. G. E. CUNNYNGHAM, Chairman.

On motion of A. G. Haygood, it was made the order of the day for Monday, May 18, at 10 A.M.

A. R. Winfield gave notice that he would present another Constitution for the Board of Missions to-morrow.

Also, Report No. 2 of said committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 2.

The Committee on Missions beg leave to return to the General Conference the preamble and resolutions concerning our Missions in Mexico, signed by James Wickersham and James Mackey, and referred to us. We do this at the request of the brethren who presented the paper, and ask that it be returned to them.

W. G. E. CUNNYNGHAM, Chairman.

W. C. Johnson, Chairman of the Committee on Books and Period-

icals, presented Report No. 3 of said committee, which was read, and, on motion of L. M. Lee, it was laid on the table until to-morrow, and ordered to be printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate*. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 3.

1. Your committee, having considered the resolution offered by H. H. Montgomery, J. T. Heard, and P. Tuggle, concerning the publication of a Methodist Quarterly Review by the Book Agent at Nashville, submit the following resolution for adoption by the General Conference—viz.:

Resolved, That, in the judgment of the General Conference, there is no present necessity for the establishment of a Methodist Quarterly Review, to be published by the Book Agent at Nashville.

2. The resolution offered by E. E. Wiley, W. M. Leftwich, and A. R. Winfield, instructing your committee to ascertain and report by what action of the General Conference authority has been given to print on the title-page of the cover of the *Southern Review* these words: "*Published under the auspices of the M. E. Church, South;*" and also what is the legal relation, if any, of the *Southern Review* to the M. E. Church, South, has received much attention from the committee, and they present the following report:

The committee have ascertained that the words above mentioned were placed on the title-page of the cover of the *Southern Review* by the first publisher after the General Conference of 1870, he believing that he was justified in doing so by the action of that General Conference.

The committee state, farther, that in their judgment the *Southern Review*, by the action of the last General Conference, sustains a formal relation to the M. E. Church, South, but no such legal relation as makes the Church responsible either for its financial support or for its utterances.

The committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions—viz.:

Resolved, 1. That while we are not responsible for all the utterances of the *Southern Review*, edited by Dr. Bledsoe, yet we regard it as, in the main, an able exponent of the doctrines and polity of our Church, and heartily commend it to the liberal patronage of our people: *provided* Dr. Bledsoe accept an Editorial Committee, who shall prescribe the general policy of the *Southern Review*, and have special oversight of its theological department.

Resolved, 2. That the Editorial Committee consist of Bishop Marvin, Dr. McAnally, and Gov. Polk.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. JOHNSON, Chairman.

Also, Report No. 4 of said committee, which was read, and acted upon item by item.

H. A. Bourland moved to amend the second item by inserting the word "bequest." On motion of A. R. Winfield, the amendment was laid on the table.

After some discussion the report was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 4.

1. The communication of J. B. McFerrin, former Agent of the Southern Methodist Publishing House, and with it an Exhibit of the House, March 1, 1862, intended for presentation to the General Conference appointed for that year, have been considered by the committee. The General Conference did not meet in 1862, and this Exhibit was mislaid, and not recovered until after the General Conference of 1870. Though not an official document, this Exhibit should be preserved as part of the history of the Publishing House. Therefore the following resolution is recommended to the General Conference:

Resolved, That the Exhibit of the Southern Methodist Publishing House, March 1, 1862, with the communication of J. B. McFerrin respecting it, be put in charge of the Book Agent for preservation among the papers of the Publishing House.

2. The resolution of M. Evans and R. Hiner, with regard to blank forms for Church uses, has been considered, and the committee recommend its adoption—viz.:

Resolved, That the Book Agent be instructed to print and keep for sale all such blank forms as Annual and Quarterly Conferences, Presiding Elders and preachers in charge, may need, to secure uniformity in style and completeness in statistical detail.

3. The committee have considered the resolution offered by W. M. Leftwich, W. M. Rush, and A. T. Scruggs, instructing the committee to inquire into the expediency of authorizing the Book Agent and Book Committee to establish branch houses for the sale of our books and periodicals, at any time after the session of this General Conference, and at any place in our Connection where the way may be opened, and, in their judgment, necessity may exist; also, to publish Church-papers at such branch houses. The committee report that it is not expedient to confer such authority.

Respectfully submitted. W. C. JOHNSON, Chairman.

On motion of A. H. Redford, a Committee of three, consisting of P. A. Peterson, A. G. Haygood, and Morris Evans, was appointed to prepare the form for the statistics of Annual Conferences.

I. G. John, Chairman of the Special Committee on the Price of Church-papers, presented the report of said committee. It is as follows:

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE PRICE OF CHURCH-PAPERS.

The committee to which the question of securing uniformity of price among our Church-papers was referred, beg leave to report:

After a free interchange of opinion between the representatives of our Church-papers, we find no difference in judgment respecting the importance of raising their price.

Uniformity in price is deemed especially important, as the reduction of the price of one paper compels others to adopt the same policy, or lose patronage which may be essential to their support.

Your committee recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That the price of our Church-papers shall be fixed at not less than \$2.50 per annum, in currency, and that this change shall go into effect the 1st day of July, 1874, and shall be published simultaneously in our Church-papers, that the agents and patrons of each one may know that this action is indorsed by all our Church-papers.

I. G. JOHN, Chairman.

On motion of W. W. Bennett, the report was amended by substituting October 1 for July 1.

On motion of T. M. N. Jones, the report was laid on the table.

At the suggestion of Bishop Paine, who represented certain respectable parties, and on motion of J. B. McFerrin, the Committee on Books and Periodicals was instructed to inquire into the propriety of changing the form of the *Christian Advocate* from 16 to 32 pages.

H. F. Johnson, Chairman of the Special Committee on Church Trials, presented a report, which was read, and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHURCH TRIALS.

Your Committee on Church Trials respectfully report that it has had under consideration Chapters 6, 7, and 8 of the Discipline, and the amendments proposed thereto, referred to it by the General Conference; and, after duly considering the same, your committee recommend the adoption of the following Chapter in the place of Chapters 6 and 7, in the Discipline:

Chapter 6.—Administration of Discipline.—Section I.—Of the Trial of a Bishop.

ARTICLE I. When a Bishop is under report of being guilty of immorality, one of the other Bishops, or the Presiding Elder of the District within which the offense is supposed to have been committed, shall appoint three traveling elders to investigate the matter and report the result. If a majority of them believe that there should be a trial, they shall draw up the charges and specifications in due form and indorse thereon the name of the prosecutor, if there be one, and the names of the witnesses, as far as known. If no prosecutor appear, one of the investigating committee shall become prosecutor.

ART. II. If a trial be adjudged necessary, the Bishop to whom the report is made, shall summon together, at the most suitable place for the trial, of which he shall be the judge, fifteen traveling elders, not less than nine of whom shall constitute a committee for the trial of the case, over which one of the Bishops shall preside, assisted by as many others as may be in attendance.

ART. III. If a majority of the committee believe from the evidence that the accused is guilty as charged, the committee shall depose him from his office and from the ministry, and shall suspend or expel him from the Church.

ART. IV. If a Bishop offend by imprudent conduct, or by indulging in sinful tempers or words, not expressly forbidden in the word of God, or by disseminating, publicly or privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion, or by creating dissensions in our Church by any means, let one or more of the Bishops, or in the absence of a Bishop one or more traveling elders, communicate with him on the subject, and remonstrate against his conduct. If he persist in his course, let him be proceeded against according to Articles 1 and 2.

ART. V. If a Bishop be convicted under Article 4, he may be suspended or deposed from his office and from the ministry, and suspended or expelled from the Church, according to the judgment of the committee.

ART. VI. Charges of maladministration against a Bishop shall be heard and passed upon by the General Conference—through its Committee on Episcopacy—whose judgment shall be final.

ART. VII. The credentials of a deposed Bishop shall be demanded by the presiding Bishop, who shall return them with the record to the Secretary of the General Conference.

ART. VIII. If a Bishop willfully cease from traveling without the

consent of the General Conference, he shall not thereafter exercise the Episcopal office in our Church, and shall be proceeded against as in case of imprudent conduct.

Section II.—Of the Trial of Preachers.

ART. IX. The law which governs the proceedings in the trial of a Bishop shall also be applicable in proceedings against any other preacher, except an unordained local preacher. But the Presiding Elder of the District within which the offense is supposed to have been committed, in whole or in part, shall perform the duties assigned to the Bishop, and the trial shall take place in that District; but, if committed without our bounds, the proceedings shall take place within the District where the accused resides, or last resided.

The committee of investigation may consist of one or more persons, and the committee of trial of not less than seven persons, if that number can be obtained; otherwise, a committee of three may try the case, who may be taken from any part of our Conference territory.

ART. X. Ordained traveling preachers, including superannuates, shall be tried by ordained traveling preachers, and any other preacher may be tried by local preachers, or by laymen, if local preachers cannot be had, of which the presiding officer shall be the judge.

ART. XI. If a Presiding Elder be the accused party, or if he be incompetent to preside on account of his relation to either the prosecutor or the accused, or his connection with the matter to be investigated, a Bishop may appoint a traveling elder to take charge of the proceedings.

ART. XII. If a traveling preacher be reported to his Annual Conference as so unacceptable, inefficient, secular, or involved in debt, that he cannot be useful as a member of the Conference, the Conference shall investigate the case, and if it appear that the report is well founded, and that he will not voluntarily retire, the Conference shall locate him. Charges and specifications shall not be required, and the judgment of the Conference shall be final.

He shall be at liberty to defend himself before the Conference, in person or by his representative; and, if he be located in his absence, without having been previously notified of an intention thus to proceed against him, he may apply to the Conference, at its next session, to be heard in his defense, and the matter shall be reconsidered for that purpose.

ART. XIII. A member of an Annual Conference in the traveling connection who fails, without reasonable excuse, to attend to the

work assigned him, shall be proceeded against as for imprudent conduct, and may be suspended until the ensuing Annual Conference. The Annual Conference may locate him according to Article 12.

ART. XIV. If a local elder or deacon be reported to the Quarterly Conference as being so unacceptable or inefficient as to be no longer useful as a preacher, and the Quarterly Conference refuse to pass his character on that ground, the Quarterly Conference next succeeding shall investigate the case, and if it appear that the complaint is well founded, and he do not give the Conference satisfaction that he will amend or voluntarily retire, the Conference may depose him from the ministry. He shall have notice of the proceeding, and shall have the right to defend himself before the Conference, in person or by his representative, and if deposed, he shall have the right to appeal to the Annual Conference.

ART. XV. Charges of maladministration against a traveling preacher shall be tried by the Annual Conference.

ART. XVI. Charges preferred against a Bishop, traveling or local preacher, under Articles 1, 4, 9, or 13, shall have the effect to arrest his character, and he shall not thereafter exercise the functions of his office until he shall have been tried and acquitted.

Section III.—Of the Trial of Members.

ART. XVII. If a member of the Church, whose trial has not heretofore been provided for, be under report of being guilty of immorality, the preacher in charge shall require the class-leader, or some other member of the Church, to investigate the report, and, if it seems well founded, such member shall prepare charges and specifications against the accused person and report them to the preacher in charge. The proceedings shall be similar to those in the case of an accused Bishop. The pastor shall have charge of the proceedings, unless he be incompetent for the reasons set forth in Article 11, in which case the Presiding Elder shall appoint a traveling preacher to attend to that special business. If convicted, he shall be suspended or expelled. The committee shall consist of not less than five persons, who may be taken from any part of the charge or from adjoining charges.

ART. XVIII. If a member offend in any of the ways specified in Article 4, the pastor or leader, or both, shall reprove him and exhort him to a different course. If he persist, he shall be proceeded against according to Article 17; and if convicted, he may be suspended or expelled; or if penitent, he may be borne with.

ART. XIX. If a member voluntarily confess to the Church or a com-

mittee that he has violated some law of the Church, if penitent, he may be borne with without farther proceeding; or he may be suspended or expelled, according to the Discipline.

ART. XX. In case of any dispute between two or more members of our Church concerning the payment of debt, or otherwise, which cannot be settled by the parties concerned, the preacher in charge shall recommend to the contending parties a submission of the matter to arbitration. Each party shall choose an arbiter, and the two arbiters shall choose the third one—all of whom shall be members of our Church.

ART. XXI. If one of the parties be dissatisfied with the decision of the arbiters, he may apply to the ensuing Quarterly Conference for a second arbitration. If there be sufficient reason for it, the Quarterly Conference shall grant it, in which case each party shall choose two arbiters, and the four arbiters shall choose the fifth one—all shall be members of our Church—and the judgment of the majority shall be final. Either party refusing to abide by such judgment shall be proceeded against according to Articles 18 and 17.

ART. XXII. If any member of our Church refuse, in case of debt or other dispute, to submit the matter to arbitration, when recommended by the preacher in charge, or shall enter into a lawsuit with another member before these measures are taken, he shall be proceeded against according to Articles 18 and 17, unless the case be of such a nature as to require a process at law.

ART. XXIII. Articles 20, 21, and 22 shall be applicable to preachers.

Section IV.—Of the Mode of Trial.

ART. XXIV. The Bishop, Presiding Elder, or preacher in charge, to whom charges shall be reported according to the Discipline, shall notify the prosecutor and the accused of the time and place of trial, and furnish the accused with a copy of the charges and specifications, allowing sufficient time for the parties to prepare for the trial. He shall also see that the charges and specifications are drawn up in due form, and that all the requirements of the Discipline are fully complied with. As far as he can, he shall aid in securing the attendance of witnesses, the taking of depositions, and procuring documentary evidence. He shall see that a record is kept of all the proceedings on the trials, by a secretary of his appointment. He shall decide all questions of law arising during the trial, and have his decisions entered on the record, but the application of the law shall be with the committee.

ART. XXV. The record shall be signed by the presiding officer and

the secretary, and shall be reported by the president to the Conference, to which an appeal may lie, and shall be filed and kept in its archives.

ART. XXVI. If the accused fail to appear, the trial may proceed as if he were present, or be postponed, according to the judgment of the committee.

ART. XXVII. The prosecutor and the accused may appear in person or by their representatives.

ART. XXVIII. The prosecutor and the accused shall have the right of unlimited challenge for cause, to be decided by the presiding officer, and two peremptory challenges in a committee of more than five and one in a committee of five or less. Other committeemen may be summoned, if necessary, to make up the required number.

ART. XXIX. If the charges and specifications are so defective that a trial cannot be had upon them, they may be amended or quashed. If quashed, new charges and specifications may be preferred, and the trial proceed at once; unless the committee believe that time should be granted to take new testimony.

ART. XXX. If no prosecutor appear, the presiding officer may appoint one, or the committee may examine the testimony, and decide the case according thereto.

ART. XXXI. The prosecutor and the representative of an accused person must be members of our Church, but no other qualification shall be required.

Section V.—Of Appeals.

ART. XXXII. A Bishop shall have the right to appeal to the General Conference; a traveling preacher to the Annual Conference to which he belongs; an ordained local preacher to the Annual Conference within the bounds of which he resides, or last resided; and other Church-members, including unordained local preachers, to the Quarterly Conference: *provided* that, if present, by himself or representative, he shall signify, at the time of his conviction, his intention to appeal, and shall, within five days thereafter, file a statement of the grounds of his appeal. But if not present, he shall, so soon after he is informed of his conviction as he conveniently can, notify the prosecutor and the preacher who presided over the trial, of his intention to appeal, and shall furnish each one of them a written statement of the grounds of his appeal.

ART. XXXIII. The appeal shall be presented by the appellant or

his representative, and, if it appear that he has complied with Article 32, the appeal shall be allowed; otherwise, it shall be dismissed. An appeal to the Quarterly Conference shall be tried by the Conference itself. An appeal to an Annual or the General Conference shall be tried by a committee of its own appointment. Challenges shall be allowed according to Article 28.

ART. XXXIV. The committee shall be presided over by one of the Bishops, or by some one appointed by the president of the Conference.

ART. XXXV. The appeal shall be tried upon the record, which may be referred, without reading, to the committee.

ART. XXXVI. The committee may reverse the judgment and dismiss the case, or grant a new trial, to be conducted according to the Discipline, or affirm the judgment. Its finding shall be reported to the Conference and entered upon the journals without debate.

ART. XXXVII. In case of an appeal to the Annual Conference, each party shall be entitled to have the decision of the president of the Conference on all questions of law, when presented in writing, and all such decisions shall be reported to the College of Bishops, according to the Discipline, Chap. 3, Sec. 2. If the College of Bishops believe that manifest injustice has been done the accused by wrong decisions on points of law, a new trial may be ordered at the discretion of the Bishops.

The committee recommends the adoption of the following amendment to paragraph 1, Sec. 1, Chap. 8, p. 142, of the Discipline: Insert, after the word "otherwise," "The preacher presiding at the trial shall demand them, and." Also, strike out the word "traveling," and the words "of which he was a member," so that the paragraph shall read:

"When any elder or deacon is deprived of his credentials of ordination, by expulsion or otherwise, the preacher presiding at the trial shall demand them, and they shall be filed with the papers of the Annual Conference."

Respectfully submitted.

H. F. JOHNSON, Chairman.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, the report was made the order of the day for Tuesday, May 19, at 10 A.M.

C. Long and F. W. Earnest offered a resolution on publishing a magazine for young ladies. Referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

H. J. Adams and A. G. Haygood offered a resolution in relation

to Methodist Sunday-schools. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

Also a resolution in regard to the formation of Sunday-school Associations. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

P. Tuggle presented a paper, signed by J. D. Cameron, in relation to the boundaries of the North Mississippi Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

The following resolution was then offered and read:

Resolved, That our Bishops be, and they are hereby, requested, in their Pastoral Address, to call attention to, and express their decided disapprobation of, that operatic performance in our churches which drowns the sense of our hymns, and utterly destroys congregational singing.

F. E. PITTS,

A. R. WINFIELD,

P. A. PETERSON.

After some discussion, W. M. Leftwich and R. N. Price offered as a substitute:

Resolved, That the Bishops be requested to urge, in their Pastoral Address, the importance of congregational singing in our churches.

The movers of the original resolution accepted the substitute, a motion of M. S. Andrews to lay the whole matter on the table not prevailing.

H. J. Adams offered as a substitute the following:

That the Bishops be requested to urge upon our people to encourage congregational singing, and to enjoin upon our preachers in charge to use their influence to discountenance the use of all music that has a tendency to prevent congregational singing.

A motion of W. G. Veal to lay the whole subject on the table was lost.

The motion was put on the substitute, and the Chair pronounced it carried. A division was called for, and the substitute was lost, by a vote of 91 to 102.

J. O. A. Clark offered the following resolutions, which, on motion of M. S. Andrews, were laid on the table:

Resolved, 1. That our preachers everywhere be required to recommend and enforce congregational singing.

Resolved, 2. That the preachers in charge have the control of the choirs and the singing.

D'Arcy Paul moved to amend by adding the words, "When instruments are used, the use of preludes and interludes be avoided."

On motion of S. Bobo, the amendment was laid on the table.

T. M. Meriwether moved that the question be now taken. The call was sustained. The main question was then put, and the resolution was adopted.

The Chair then brought forward Bishop Pierce, who read a report of the College of Bishops on the religious interests of the colored people, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COLLEGE OF BISHOPS ON THE RELIGIOUS CONDITION
OF THE COLORED PEOPLE.

We respectfully submit to the General Conference the following report:

The General Conference of 1866 directed that if our colored membership should desire it, and whenever, in our godly judgment, it was expedient, we should organize them into an independent ecclesiastical body. We formed several Annual Conferences composed of colored preachers belonging to our Communion, but had gone no farther in this direction, when the General Conference of 1870, approving what had been done, renewed the authority upon the former terms for a separate General Conference jurisdiction of the colored Churches. At the same time the following resolution was adopted:

“That all trustees now holding Church-property for the use of our colored membership be instructed to make titles to said property to the properly constituted trustees of the Colored M. E. Church, South, according to the Discipline of said Church, when organized.”

The experiment, so far as made, proving satisfactory, and a very general and earnest desire having been expressed by our colored preachers and members for the consummation of their Church-order and independence, we called for them a General Conference to meet in Jackson, Tenn., Dec. 16, 1870. Eight Annual Conferences sent delegates, elected on the basis of our Discipline. Two of our Bishops were present and presided, by whom, on the 21st December, and according to our form, two Superintendents, elected by the body, were ordained. A Discipline was established, agreeing in creed and polity with our Discipline, and but slightly changed in its statutory provisions so as to suit their case. Exercising the right belonging to them, and expressly recognized by the enabling act, they chose for their name and title, “The Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America.” Their proceedings were in excellent order and spirit throughout.

Thus organized, and with our best advice and blessing, the Colored M. E. Church in America was started upon its career. They have their mission; it is an important one, and in some sense peculiar.

They have kept faithfully, so far as we are advised, to the rules adopted for their guidance, and to the work proposed to be done. We believe they are doing good. It is characteristic of this Colored Church that they guard against being subsidized by politicians. One rule of their Discipline is that their church-houses shall not be used for political speeches and assemblies. While exercising their right as citizens unrestrained, they are endeavoring to keep their religious assemblies from that complication with political parties and demagogues that has been so damaging to the spiritual interests of the colored people of the South.

Our people extend their sympathy and aid to the organization. They have, in many cases, given them church-lots, and helped them to build houses for religious worship. Wherever they are prepared to receive them, our trustees have turned over the titles and possession of churches that were formerly held for the use and benefit of our colored members. In some notable instances these trustees have stood the expense of lawsuits against intrusionists, in order to put our colored brethren, who are the rightful claimants, into possession.

Though entirely independent of us, and self-governing in every respect, nevertheless the Colored M. E. Church in America do not forget their old acquaintance and the friendly relations of the past.

They have shown diligence as well as fidelity thus far, and we entertain good hopes for their future prosperity. We think the best religious welfare of the colored people in the Southern States is involved in their success.

They have now 4 Bishops, 15 Annual Conferences, 607 traveling preachers, 518 local preachers, 74,799 members, 535 Sunday-schools, 1,102 teachers, and 49,955 Sunday-school scholars. They have a monthly paper, the *Christian Index*, which is self-sustaining. It has a circulation of 1,500 paying subscribers. They have a book-store, which is beginning to attract the attention of their people, and is helping to extend a religious literature among them. Our Publishing House gives to them the most favorable terms, and is aiding them in providing a suitable and cheap Sunday school literature. We recommend that still larger facilities in this direction be extended, as our Agent may be able to do it. Among the many difficulties they have to contend against, not the least is the want of a ministry capable of teaching and taking pastoral oversight of the multitudes of their race that are ready to put themselves under their spiritual care. For this felt want they are, with commendable energy, trying to make provision. They are endeavoring to build a school of training and education for this special purpose. We heartily commend their cause

to the good will of all who would do a great work for the Master's cause.

Since your body has been in session, the four Bishops of the Colored M. E. Church in America have called upon us, and we have been encouraged at the account of their plans and progress in the work now committed, as we believe, under the guidance of Providence, into their hands. Resolutions were adopted by us expressive of this feeling, and of a purpose, while attending to our appropriate labors, to do all that lay in our power to help forward their branch of Methodism. A copy of these resolutions was communicated to them by our Secretary. In acknowledgment of the same we have received a communication from them, which we take the liberty of submitting to you, and making it a part of this report:

LOUISVILLE, KY., May 12, 1874.

To the College of Bishops of the M. E. Church, South—Greeting:

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—We, the College of Bishops of the Colored M. E. Church in America, have received your friendly greeting. We are much gratified to know that there is no strife existing between our Churches. While we are a separate and independent ecclesiastical body from your Church, by the authority of your General Conference, which made provision, at their sessions in 1866 and 1870, for the colored members of the M. E. Church, South, to be set up into a separate body, and be their own guides and governors, if they requested it, we are thankful to you as a Church, and to God, that such a provision was made, believing, as we do, that it is best for both white and colored to have separate Churches and schools. We believe this will do much to promote the peace and prosperity of both white and colored Churches.

We are gratified that, so far as we know, the trustees of your Church have turned over the Church-property held by them for the use and benefit of the colored members wherever we have called on them to do so, which has increased the confidence of our people in the M. E. Church, South.

We are much gratified with the success of your Publishing House at Nashville, and trust that it may prove a great blessing to both white and colored. We have opened a book-house here in the city, and we are gratified to inform you it has been a success so far. The *Christian Index*, our Church organ, is doing well. Our Church is suffering more from the want of a better-informed ministry than from any other cause.

We are now raising means for the erection of an institution of learn-

ing for the training of our ministers. We have raised several hundred dollars, and think that we will succeed. We trust to have the prayers and coöperation of your people generally. We are glad that there is one branch of the Colored Methodist Church that sustains a friendly relation to the great family of the white Methodists in this country.

We have tried to carry out the design and desire of our organization in spreading Bible holiness all over the land. We have many difficulties, but thanks be to God, who so far has helped us to put to silence the reproaches of our opposers, we believe there is a bright future ahead. We trust that you may never have to regret that you set us up to manage our Church affairs, and give the pure, unadulterated word of God to our people. We pledge ourselves, by the help of God, to do all in our power to educate and Christianize our race.

We have a large mission field in the South that is ripe for the harvest. We pray that God may give us more laborers to enter the field. We have an eye on Africa, and trust that it will not be many years till we shall have men educated to send out as missionaries to carry the blessed gospel to our suffering people there.

J. A. BEEBE, Secretary.

W. H. MILES, Chairman.

We submit this information of what has been done by us in the premises, touching the religious interests of the colored people, and from these statements the General Conference may learn their work and the state of their affairs. An epoch-making event has occurred in their Church-history during the last quadriennium. To us it seems the best course, and, under the circumstances, the only practicable course that could have been adopted to meet the providential exigencies of the situation. Hitherto our Church has not been unmindful of the spiritual wants of the large number of descendants of Ham in our midst. An army of missionaries, detailed from our ranks, has toiled in this field, and their labors and sacrifices have been great—their fruits have been abundant.

Our interest in this cause has not ceased—our responsibility has not ended. But as men who have understanding of the times, it became us to adapt our plans to the changed condition. So far, we think there is cause to thank God and congratulate the Church in the success of the plan.

Let there be no slacking of effort, but a hearty and united coöperation of our people and Churches aiding the Colored M. E. Church in America, as they may have need, and in such way as may be agreeable to them and proper and practicable for us. And may God guide and

bless them, and make this Church a chosen instrument in extending his kingdom.

ROBERT PAINE,
GEORGE F. PIERCE,
HUBBARD H. KAVANAUGH,
WILLIAM M. WIGHTMAN,
DAVID S. DOGGETT,
ENOCH M. MARVIN,
HOLLAND N. MCTYEIRE,
JOHN C. KEENER.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the report was referred to a special committee to be appointed by the Chair.

The Chair announced J. E. Evans, Truett Polk, H. A. C. Walker, J. S. Lithgow, and H. H. Montgomery, said committee.

A collection was then taken up in favor of the Biblical School of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America.

James Wickersham, lay delegate from White River Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence.

The vote by which leave of absence, for a few days, was not granted to Thomas Metcalf, lay delegate from Western Conference, was reconsidered, and, for reasons assigned, leave was granted.

On motion of T. J. Magruder, Report No. 2 of the Committee on Sunday-schools was made the order of the day for to-morrow at 10 A.M.

Leave of absence was asked for J. C. Wills, lay delegate from the Missouri Conference, and J. G. Motley, lay delegate from the Alabama Conference. Leave was granted to both.

On motion of J. W. Kelly, the time was extended five minutes.

A courteous invitation from the Louisville Microscopical Society, John Williamson, Secretary, to visit the Society, was presented and read.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Friday Morning, May 15, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Wightman in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by A. Hunter.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop Marvin took the chair, and called for reports of Standing Committees.

J. E. Edwards, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 4 of that committee, which was read.

A motion of N. H. D. Wilson, that the report lie on the table one day, was not carried.

The first resolution was adopted.

The second resolution was read, and the Chair decided that, being in the midst of the report, a distinct motion for the adoption of an item is not necessary, and discussion was out of order.

J. E. Edwards appealed from the decision of the Chair—division was called for, and the Chair was sustained by a vote of 107 to 80.

The vote was then taken on the second resolution—division was called for, and the resolution was adopted by a vote of 111 to 81.

The report, as a whole, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 4.

The resolution signed by A. R. Winfield and Leroy M. Lee, asking that the resolution adopted by the General Conference held in Memphis, 1870, "authorizing the Bishops to appoint one or more preachers to any proper work beyond the bounds of the Annual Conferences, be, and is hereby, repealed;" and the resolution signed by L. Pierce, N. H. D. Wilson, J. O. A. Clark, S. Bobo, J. E. Evans, and others, requesting "that the Committee on Itinerancy be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making some provision, to be inserted in the Discipline or otherwise, by which a Bishop, on the request of an Annual Conference, may appoint a preacher to any proper pastoral work beyond the bounds of the Annual Conferences," have been considered and discussed by the committee in all their bearings and relations; and, after patient and protracted deliberation, we recommend the adoption of the following resolutions by the General Conference—viz.:

Resolved, 1. That the resolution adopted in 1870, referred to in the first-mentioned resolution, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

Resolved, 2. That, during the next *four years*, the presiding Bishop of an Annual Conference, when requested by said Conference, may appoint, at his discretion, one or more members of the Conference to any proper pastoral work beyond the bounds of the Annual Conferences.

JOHN E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

Thomas Branch, lay reserve delegate, from the Virginia Conference, appeared and took his seat, in place of F. H. Smith, who had been called home.

The order of the day, to wit, Report No. 2 of the Committee on Sunday-schools, with the Minority Report, was taken up, and read.

M. S. Andrews moved the adoption of the report of the minority, as a substitute for the report of the majority.

After lengthened discussion, C. G. Smith moved to lay the whole subject on the table. This motion was lost.

J. H. Pritchett moved that the question be now taken—the call was sustained, and the question was taken by a rising vote, and the report of the minority was adopted by a vote of 130 to 74. (See pp. 418, 419.)

A. R. Winfield presented a Minority Report for Report 1 of the Committee on Missions, which was laid on the table for the present, and ordered to be printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate*. It is as follows:

MINORITY REPORT FOR REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 1.

We beg leave to present the following as a substitute for Report No. 1 of the Committee on Missions:

Constitution of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

ARTICLE I. The officers of this Society shall be a President, — Vice-Presidents, two Secretaries, a Treasurer, and twenty-one Managers. They shall all be members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and shall be elected quadrennially by the General Conference, except the Treasurer, who shall be elected by the officers and managers.

When, from any cause, the General Conference shall fail to meet at the time appointed, the officers and managers shall continue in office until the next meeting of the General Conference. The Bishops shall be *ex officio* Vice-Presidents, and shall act with the Board of Managers in all of the business of the Society.

ART. II. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Society, to preserve order, and to call the Society together when necessary; and to discharge such other duties as shall be imposed upon him.

ART. III. The Vice-President shall assist the President, and in his absence shall preside. Should the President and Vice-President be absent at any regular or called meeting, a president, *pro tem.*, shall be elected.

ART. IV. The Secretaries shall reside at the place where the Society is located, but may be members of any Annual Conference. It shall be their duty to journalize the proceedings of the Society, to correspond with all our missionaries, both foreign and domestic, and shall procure all information concerning fields of missionary enterprises not under our control; and shall publish from time to time, through our Church-papers or otherwise, such information as the Society may direct, or they may think proper. They shall furnish each Annual

Conference, at its regular sessions, with a condensed report of our missionary operations, and the necessities of the Society; and shall make quadrennially to the General Conference a full account of all our missionaries, missions, and such other facts as may be necessary; to travel, as far as practicable, throughout the Connection, superintending the interest of the Society. They shall visit such Annual Conferences, and do such other work, as the Society, from time to time, may direct. The salaries of the Secretaries shall be fixed by the Board of Managers, with the consent and approval of the President.

ART. V. The Treasurer shall hold all the funds of the Society in safe deposit, which deposit shall be made by him as an officer of the Society, subject to his drafts as such, and to those of his successors in office. He shall pay all drafts drawn on him by any one of our Bishops, and countersigned by either one of the Secretaries, and such other sums as may be directed by the Board. He shall also furnish an annual report to the Annual Conferences, and a quadrennial report to the General Conference.

ART. VI. The Board of Managers shall hold an annual meeting at the regular meeting of the College of Bishops. They shall provide for a regular anniversary meeting of the Society and for a quadrennial meeting. They shall, by and with the consent of the Bishops and other officers of the Board, make all appropriations necessary to carry on the operations of the Society. They shall determine what amount is needed for our Foreign and Domestic Missions, and shall divide it among the Annual Conferences, upon the basis of the salaries of the Bishops, or any other way they may judge best. They shall, from time to time, determine what fields are to be occupied as missions. All of our missions shall be under the control of the Parent Board. All funds raised for missionary purposes shall pass through the hands of the General Treasurer. The Board shall have authority to print books in Indian, German, or any other language, build school-houses, houses of worship, residences for the missionaries, provide for superannuated missionaries, and for the widows and orphans of deceased missionaries not provided for by an Annual Conference; to defray such incidental expenses as may be necessary; to make by-laws for their own government; to examine annually the books of the Secretaries and Treasurer; to see that all our missionary operations are properly conducted, and to make a faithful report to the General Conference. Twelve shall constitute a quorum at the annual meeting and seven at a called meeting.

ART. VII. Our missionaries shall be allowed a sufficient sum to support them in their work. The Board shall require each missionary to furnish a quarterly report of his labors to the secretaries, giving information of the state and prospect of the work on which they are employed. No one shall be recognized as a missionary or receive support from the Board who has not some definite work assigned him, or could not be an active laborer on a circuit, except such as are provided for in Article 6.

ART. VIII. The revenue of the Society shall be derived as follows: From annual collections from the Annual Conferences, made thus: A society shall be organized in every Church Conference, District Conference, and Annual Conference, as auxiliary to the Parent Society, with such officers and regulations as they may agree upon—no preacher shall fail to present the subject of missions to every congregation in his charge. From collections made by the secretaries; from donations and legacies, and from the anniversaries of the Parent Society.

ART. IX. We recommend to all auxiliary societies the plan of collecting by life-memberships and life-directorships.

ART. X. Any person may become a life-member of the Parent Society by the payment of twenty dollars at any one time, a life-director by the payment of fifty dollars, and a patron by the payment of one hundred dollars.

ART. XI. Each Annual Conference shall either organize a board or a society auxiliary to the Parent Society, and through its Treasurer shall remit all moneys collected for missions to the Treasurer of the Parent Board. And while we recommend the system of auxiliary societies, as provided for in Articles 8 and 9, we leave it with each Annual Conference to determine the time and manner of its own missionary collections, provided they raise the amount assessed.

ART. XII. The superintendent and teachers, together with the preacher in charge, shall organize a missionary society in every Sunday-school, and teach the children to contribute regularly to the cause of missions; and the money so collected shall be paid to the preacher in charge (taking his receipt for the same), to be sent by him to the General Treasurer as a part of his missionary assessment.

ART. XIII. All money collected by the Church Conference Missionary Societies shall be paid by the Treasurer to the preacher in charge (taking his receipt for the same), to be carried by him to the Annual Conference.

ART. XIV. All moneys collected by the District Conference Missionary Societies shall be paid to the different pastors as the donors

may direct. Any surplus shall go to the charge where the District Conference is held.

ART. XV. The General Treasurer shall acknowledge, from time to time, all moneys coming into his hands through the official organ of the Church.

ART. XVI. The Book Editor and Agent shall provide certificates for life-members, life-directors, and patrons, to supply the preachers in charge, throughout the Church, the cost of which shall be paid by the General Treasurer. Annual membership must be regulated by the different societies.

ART. XVII. The Society shall be located and domiciled in ———, State of ———.

All of which is respectfully submitted. A. R. WINFIELD.

R. Alexander, Chairman of the Committee on Boundaries, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read, and laid on the table for one day. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES, NO. 2.

Your Committee on Boundaries would respectfully beg leave to submit their Report No. 2, as follows—we recommend:

1. That the memorial of the Western Virginia Conference be granted, and the line between the Western Virginia and Baltimore Conferences be so changed as to transfer the counties of Monroe, Greenbrier, and Pocahontas, to the Western Virginia Conference.

2. That the memorial for a change of boundaries between the Baltimore and Holston Conferences be granted, and that the same be so changed as to run a straight line from Jacksonville, in Floyd county, to Central Depot, in Montgomery county, so as to embrace the territory known as the New Hope Circuit, in the Holston Conference.

3. That your committee deem it inexpedient to grant the memorial from Elizabeth City and other Quarterly Conferences, at this time, asking that the Virginia Conference be divided, and they recommend that the prayer be not granted.

4. That the Prestonburg, Big Sandy, and Piketon Circuits be transferred from the Kentucky Conference to the Western Virginia Conference.

5. That the territory of Louisiana Conference lying in the north-west corner of the State, north of Soda Lake, and west of Red River, be transferred and added to Trinity Conference.

6. That the memorial to transfer a part of Attala county, Mississippi, to the Mississippi Conference be not granted.

7. That the memorial to change the name of the Mississippi Conference to that of the "South Mississippi" Conference, be not concurred in.

8. That the name of Trinity Conference be, and the same is hereby, changed to that of "North Texas" Conference.

9. That the words "Island Creek" be substituted in the place of the words "Battle Creek," where the same occurs in the description of the boundary line between the Holston and North Alabama Conferences, so as to make "Island Creek," instead of "Battle Creek," the south-west boundary line of the Holston Conference.

10. That the memorial from West Texas Conference, asking to have the Colorado River made the eastern boundary of said Conference, be not granted.

11. That the eastern boundary of West Texas Conference be so extended as to include the following described territory, viz.: Commencing on the present eastern line of the said Conference at a point where the county lines of Travis, Hays, and Caldwell counties intersect; thence due north to the mouth of Barton's Creek; thence with the Colorado River until it intersects the present boundary.

12. That the "Catawba Circuit" be, and the same is hereby, declared to be in, and form a part of, the Holston Conference.

13. The memorials from White River, Arkansas, and St. Louis Conferences, respectively, were, by the petitioners, withdrawn by the consent of the committee, and hence no action on them will be had.

Respectfully submitted.

R. ALEXANDER, Chairman.

R. S. ANDERSON, Secretary.

Also a Minority Report, presented by W. P. Conway and others, of said committee. It is as follows:

MINORITY REPORT FOR REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES, NO. 2.

We, the undersigned, members of the Committee on Boundaries, dissenting from the vote of the majority by which the Lewisburg District of the Baltimore Annual Conference was detached from said Conference, and attached to the Western Virginia Conference, ask leave to present this minority report, and respectfully ask that the boundaries between the said Conferences shall remain as now established.

W. P. CONWAY,

for himself and other members of minority.

On motion of W. C. Johnson, the time was extended to continue the call for reports from standing committees.

W. G. E. Cunnynggham, Chairman of the Committee on Missions,

presented Reports Nos. 3 and 4 of that committee, which were read, and laid on the table for one day. They are as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 3.

Your committee have had under consideration a resolution, signed by H. H. Montgomery and C. G. Andrews, referred to us, and would respectfully recommend:

That the Bishop, who may visit the Pacific Conference at its next session, if deemed advisable by the College of Bishops, also visit our mission in China, and ordain any native preachers who may be recommended by our missionaries in that field. The committee also recommend that the traveling expenses of the Bishop from San Francisco to China and back to San Francisco, be paid out of the Missionary Treasury.

W. G. E. CUNNYNGHAM, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 4.

Your committee have considered the resolution, signed by J. M. McTeer, C. Long, and E. E. Wiley, asking that the Board of Missions take under its control and support the Cherokee Indians in Echota Mission, Holston Conference; also a resolution, signed by H. H. Montgomery and H. F. Johnson, asking that the Choctaw Indians, within the bounds of the Mississippi Conference, be taken under the care of the Board of Missions. The committee recommend that the Board be instructed to take charge of these missions.

W. G. E. CUNNYNGHAM, Chairman.

Also Report No. 5 of the same committee, which was read and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 5.

In reference to the preamble and resolution, offered by George M. Winton and George M. Jones, requesting the Board of Missions to appropriate *one thousand dollars* for the free distribution of Dr. Haygood's "Essay on Missions," your committee would respectfully report:

That while we highly appreciate the admirable essay of Dr. Haygood, we do not think the state of the missionary treasury would justify the Board in making such an appropriation, and, besides, we believe the merits of the essay will ensure its general circulation among our people.

W. G. E. CUNNYNGHAM, Chairman.

T. J. Magruder, Chairman of the Committee on Sunday-schools, presented Report No. 5 of that committee, which was read, and laid over under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 5.

1. The paper submitted by H. J. Adams and A. G. Haygood, in reference to Sunday-school Associations for districts, stations, and circuits, has been considered, and the committee report *non-concurrence*.

2. The committee has had under consideration the resolutions signed by H. J. Adams and A. G. Haygood, in reference to the importance of uniformity in the use of our Sunday-school literature, and submit the following:

Whereas there are Sunday-schools in our pastoral charges which do not use the Sunday-school publications of our Church; therefore,

Resolved, That the following words be added to the first sentence in Chap. 5, Sec. 5, p. 113: "And let the schools be under our own denominational control, and use our own publications."

The section, thus amended, will read as follows:

"Let Sunday-schools be formed in all congregations where ten children can be collected for that purpose; and let the schools be under the control of our own denomination, and use our own publications."

T. J. MAGRUDER, Chairman.

W. C. Johnson, Chairman of the Committee on Books and Periodicals, presented Report No. 5 of that committee, which was read, and laid over for one day. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 5.

Your committee, after carefully examining, and with great interest and pleasure, the report of the Publishing Committee of our German Periodicals, *Der Familienfreund* and *Der Kinderfreund*, submit the following report:

Der Familienfreund, adopted by the General Conference of 1870, as our German Church-paper, is published every other week in New Orleans, at one dollar a year, and is edited by the Rev. J. B. A. Ahrens; the Rev. Ed. N. S. Blogg, Associate Editor. It is a bold and thorough, honest and faithful, journal, devoted to the advancement of Christianity, and the advocacy among the Germans of the doctrines and polity of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, many thousands of whom are accessible to us, particularly in Louisiana and Texas. The paper, we are informed, is a regular visitor in every family of our German membership in Louisiana and Texas, and besides, it has many readers elsewhere, and even among those who are not members of our Church. The fact that it visits *every family* is certainly noteworthy. It shows alike the merit of the paper, and the thorough training of our German

membership in this line of duty; and it is commended as an example to our English-reading membership.

Der Kinderfreund, our German Sunday-school paper, is published monthly at the same office as *Der Familienfreund*, and we are glad to learn that it is received and read by every German Sunday-school in our Church. This example also may be commended for imitation.

Editorial service on these papers is performed without salary, thus reducing the cost of publication to the lowest figures. The office has property on hand consisting of types, stands, plates, furniture, etc., valued at \$900, and money due, \$600; total, \$1,500. The amount of indebtedness is \$100, which, subtracted from \$1,500, leaves \$1,400 as profit in four years.

The Publishing House at Nashville has issued in German, the Hymn Book, Discipline, Catechism, Sunday-school Song Book, and Sunday-school Tune Book—all edited by the Rev. J. B. A. Ahrens. To these publications the Book Agent is expected to add others whenever the demand shall justify it.

It is very desirable that *Der Familienfreund* should be published weekly, and that it should be furnished with a better and fuller supply of printing material. But as it is not expedient to devolve any part of the expense of the paper upon the Publishing House, other means should be devised to obtain the funds necessary to accomplish the object in view.

The following resolutions are offered for adoption by the General Conference, viz.:

Resolved, 1. That the Publishing Committee of our German papers be authorized, according to their request, to solicit contributions with which to purchase printing material for the purpose of enabling them, at an early day, to publish *Der Familienfreund* weekly, and in a better manner.

Resolved, 2. That the Rev. J. B. A. Ahrens be appointed editor of our German papers for the next four years, with the Rev. Ed. N. S. Blogg, corresponding editor of *Der Familienfreund*, and that the Publishing Committee consist of the Rev. F. Vordenbauman, the Rev. John A. Pauly, and the Rev. J. B. A. Ahrens.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. JOHNSON, Chairman.

J. W. Hanner, Chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 4 of said committee, which was read and laid over under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, NO. 4.

On sundry papers the committee offer the following recommendations:

Non-concurrence with a resolution of W. M. Cook and J. W. Whitten, to define what number of stewards and trustees constitutes a quorum.

2. Paper signed J. S. Kennedy and C. Long, proposing to fix the membership of local preachers in certain cases. *No farther legislation necessary.*

3. *Concurrence* with a resolution of C. Long and J. W. Gaut, to strike out the phrase, "With closed doors," p. 110, Chap. 5, Sec. 3, Ans. 1, so that the paragraph as amended shall read: "Ans. 1. Love-feasts shall be held quarterly, or at such other times as the preacher in charge may consider expedient, to which, besides Church-members, other serious persons may be admitted by him."

4. *Non-concurrence* with the resolution of C. I. Vandeventer and J. E. Ryland, to publish the "Bishops' Address" of 1870 in the Discipline.

5. On a resolution of L. S. Reed and R. Pollard, to discourage operatic singing in our churches. Your committee believe the directions given on pages 108-9 are sufficient, and deem farther legislation on this subject needless.

6. On a resolution of M. Price and E. A. Martin, respecting the powers of a Presiding Elder, *no legislation is needed.*

7. A resolution of L. D. Palmer and others to change the word "present" to *prosecute*, is returned to the General Conference with the request that it be referred to the Committee on Church Trials.

8. On sundry papers signed by C. W. Miller, H. A. Bourland, and others, asking a change in the Ritual for Baptism, your committee *concur* with recommending the following proposed changes in Chap. 13, Sec. 2, p. 188: After the word "as," in the first line of the exhortation, strike out all to the pronoun "I," and insert in lieu thereof, "Our Saviour, Christ, commanded his apostles to go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost." Then substitute the word *goodness* for "mercy," *being* for "may be," *may also be baptized with* for "and," *living* for "lively," so that the paragraph, as amended, shall read:

"Dearly beloved, forasmuch as our Saviour Christ commanded his apostles to go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost: I beseech you to call upon God, the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his

bounteous goodness he will grant to *this child* that which by nature *he* cannot have; that *he* being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Ghost, and received into Christ's holy Church, and be made a living *member* of the same."

It is also recommended that the prayer on page 190, Chap. 13, Sec. 2, third paragraph, be changed by striking out the phrase, "Did shed out of his most precious side both water and blood," and in lieu thereof inserting, "*Did shed his most precious blood.*" Then strike out the words, "the supplications of thy congregation; and grant," and insert, "*our supplications;*" so that the paragraph, as amended, shall read:

"Almighty, ever-living God, whose most dearly beloved Son, Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed his most precious blood, and gave commandment to his disciples that they should go teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, regard, we beseech thee, our supplications that *this child*, now to be baptized, may receive the fullness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and elect children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Furthermore, it is recommended that the exhortation on pp. 193-94, Sec. 3, Chap. 13, be conformed to the proposed changes, as above, so that this amended paragraph shall read:

"Dearly beloved, forasmuch as our Saviour Christ commanded his apostles to go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost, I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous goodness he will grant to *these persons* that which by nature *they* cannot have; that *they*, being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Ghost, and received into Christ's holy Church, and be made living *members* of the same."

9. With a resolution of W. G. Veal and others, to amend Discipline, p. 167, paragraph 2, by inserting after the words, "shall be," *invested in other Church-property*. Paragraph, as amended:

"2. The trustees, with the consent of the preacher in charge, and the Quarterly Conference, shall have power to sell any Church or parsonage property which has gone out of use, or should be removed to another place, the proceeds of which shall be invested in other Church-property, under the direction of the Quarterly Conference." Your committee *concur*.

10. On a resolution of same, to have the Discipline published with marginal references to proof texts of doctrines, your committee recom-

mend that your Book Editor be instructed to append to each article of religion references to some of the texts by which it is sustained.

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. HANNER, Chairman.

A resolution of H. W. Wescott, concerning the boundaries of the Illinois Conference, and one of I. L. Burrow, concerning the boundaries of the White River Conference, were offered, and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Saturday Morning, May 16, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Marvin in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by H. J. Adams.

The Minutes were read and approved.

J. A. Duncan, clerical delegate from the Virginia Conference, appeared and took his seat.

Bishop Doggett then took the chair.

F. C. Robbins and T. M. Jones, lay delegates from the North Carolina Conference, and W. R. Denny, lay delegate from the Baltimore Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence after to-day; and J. E. Brodwater, lay delegate from the Virginia Conference, after Monday. H. C. Bailey, lay delegate from the Memphis Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence on account of the serious illness of his wife. J. D. Thomas, lay delegate from the Texas Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence on account of family affliction.

L. M. Lee, Chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. 1 of said committee, approving the character and administration of the Bishops, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 1.

The Committee on Episcopacy have called the names of our Bishops, one by one, and have carefully reviewed and examined the life and official administration of each for the four years last past, and have found them *blameless*.

L. M. LEE, Chairman.

R. A. YOUNG, Secretary.

Also Report No. 2 of said committee, on episcopal decisions, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 2.

The Committee on Episcopacy have carefully considered the paper signed by B. Craven, N. H. D. Wilson, and L. S. Burkhead, concerning the decisions of our Bishops, and unanimously recommend—

That all episcopal decisions, approved by the College of Bishops, and accompanied by such brief statements of the cases as may be necessary and proper, shall be prepared by the Book Editor, and published in book form.

L. M. LEE, Chairman.

R. A. YOUNG, Secretary.

Also Report No. 3 of said committee, on a violation of the law on the pastoral term, which was read.

A motion of N. Head, for indefinite postponement, did not prevail, and the report was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 3.

The paper signed by W. M. Leftwich and A. T. Scruggs, asking for an expression of opinion as to the legality of continuing an effective traveling preacher ten or fifteen years in one pastoral charge, by the appointment of Bishops and Presiding Elders, was considered at length, and the committee return the following answer:

They are unable to see how, under any proper administration of the Discipline, the case supposed in the resolution of W. M. Leftwich and A. T. Scruggs could occur, except in violation of the Discipline, and we hereby express our disapproval of such a policy. See Discipline, p. 61, Ques. 3, Sec. 2.

L. M. LEE, Chairman.

R. A. YOUNG, Secretary.

Also Report No. 4 of said committee, not favoring the strengthening of the Episcopacy, which was read.

A. E. Goodwyn offered the following substitute for the resolution of the report:

“Resolved, That this General Conference elect two additional Bishops.”

After some discussion, J. M. Sharpe called for the previous question. The call was not sustained, the vote being 127 to 73.

On motion of S. Bobo, the substitute was laid on the table.

J. Hamilton moved the adoption of the report.

A. L. P. Green moved, as a substitute, that the Conference elect one additional Bishop.

On motion of P. Tuggle, the motion was laid on the table. The report was then adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 4.

The Committee on Episcopacy have thoroughly discussed the question presented in the paper signed by A. E. Goodwyn and J. Harvey

Brigham, asking them to inquire into the expediency of electing two additional Bishops at this General Conference, and by a decided majority passed the following resolution:

That we *do not concur* in their recommendation to increase the number of Bishops; but to supply a felt want of the Church west of the Mississippi River, we request the Bishops so to distribute their episcopal labors as to give the West more of their time and service than heretofore, especially in Texas and California.

L. M. LEE, Chairman.

R. A. YOUNG, Secretary.

J. E. Edwards, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 5 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 5.

1. The paper signed by J. S. Kennedy and J. M. McTeer, asking that the Discipline be so changed as that the authority for "licensing proper persons to preach, and of renewing their license annually, and of recommending suitable candidates to the Annual Conference for deacon's and elder's orders in the local connection, and for admission on trial," etc., "be transferred from the *Quarterly* to the District Conference," has received due attention, and the committee, with great unanimity, recommend *non-concurrence*.

2. The preamble and resolution signed by P. A. Peterson, M. S. Andrews, A. M. Shipp, and A. R. Winfield, "inquiring into the expediency of changing the second restrictive rule so as to make the aggregate of ministers and laymen in connection with the Annual Conferences the basis of representation of said Conferences in the General Conference," has been examined and considered, and the committee recommend that the change be *not* made:

3. The resolution signed by W. H. Potter and W. F. Cook, of the North Georgia Conference, "inquiring into the expediency of changing the law of the Church in relation to the *representation of local preachers* in the Annual and General Conferences;" and the resolution signed by W. A. McCarty and Linus Parker, relating to the same subject, have received the attentive consideration of the committee, and while they express their high appreciation of the local ministry of our Church, and feel a jealous regard for all their rights and immunities, they nevertheless recommend that *no change* be made at present in the existing law of the Church touching the subjects referred to in the resolution.

4. A memorial from the Marion District Conference (S. C.), dated Nov. 16, 1869, and addressed to the General Conference of 1870, signed by "Wm. C. Power and C. D. Rowell, L. P., Committee," requesting the transfer, by the General Conference, of the authority "to grant and to renew licenses to preach, and to recommend candidates for admission into the itinerancy," from the Quarterly to the District Conferences, has received respectful notice by the committee; but, having disposed of this question in a previous part of this report, they recommend non-compliance with the petition of the memorialists.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

A motion of A. R. Winfield to reconsider did not prevail.

M. Brown, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, NO. 2.

Your Committee of Finance, to whom has been referred "*A Plan for the Support of Superannuated Preachers*," presented and signed by Revs. M. S. Andrews and William Shapard, and to whom has also been referred a "memorial of South Georgia Conference on the subject of *superannuated preachers' and widows' claims*;" and to whom has also been referred a memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Tyler Station, East Texas Conference, on the same subject, all looking to the same general purpose, beg leave to report that they have fully considered the subject, and deem it their duty to report against the adoption of either of the changes in our Discipline proposed in the papers above referred to. But in lieu of the plans proposed by the several papers referred to us, a majority of the committee has directed the undersigned, as chairman of the committee, to report the following:

Sec. 5, "Of the Joint Board of Finance," paragraph 3, page 150 of Discipline, clause 1, add, after the word "necessities," "And the time of service rendered," so that the clause (1) will read as follows:

"To receive all moneys collected as Conference collections or otherwise, and distribute the same to the superannuated preachers, and the widows and orphans of deceased members of the Conference, according to their best judgment of their several necessities *and time of service rendered*."

The undersigned, Chairman of the Committee of Finance, reports the foregoing proposed change in our Discipline, in obedience to the direction of a majority of the committee, without approving it himself.

Your Committee of Finance has also had under consideration the resolution introduced and signed by M. M. Pugh and N. Scarritt, which is hereto attached, and made part of this report, marked exhibit A. After due deliberation, we recommend that said resolution *do not pass*.

Your Committee of Finance has also examined and duly considered the "memorial from the Mississippi Conference," hereto attached, and made part of this report, as exhibit B, and beg leave to report that we deem it inexpedient to make the proposed change.

Your Committee of Finance has also had under consideration and examination the resolution signed by J. L. de Yampert, Richard H. Powell, and Andrew Hunter, first referred to the Committee on Revision, and then referred to us, which is hereto attached as exhibit C, and made part of this report; and after due deliberation, we beg leave to report that we recommend *non concurrence*, and that it do not pass. All of which is most respectfully submitted.

MILTON BROWN, Chairman.

A. A. Gilbert, T. P. Cobb, and D. K. Pittman, of said committee, presented a minority report, which was read and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

MINORITY REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, NO. 2.

The undersigned, representing a minority of the Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the memorials of the South Georgia Conference, and of the Quarterly Conference of Tyler Station, East Texas Conference, and a paper signed by M. S. Andrews and W. Shapard, of the Alabama Conference, praying a change of the Discipline to the effect that Joint Boards of Finance shall apportion the moneys raised for superannuated preachers, and the widows and orphans of preachers, upon a scale of graduation, the basis of which shall be the length of time of service previous to superannuation or death, differing in opinion with the majority of said committee, and having considered the matter maturely, recommend non-concurrence in the prayer of the memorialists—that there be no disciplinary change in this respect, and that the several Joint Boards of Finance throughout our bounds continue to distribute said moneys as heretofore, upon the basis of the necessities of the parties concerned in the distribution.

Respectfully submitted.

A. A. GILBERT,
T. P. COBB,
D. K. PITTMAN.

H. A. Stollenwerck, of said committee, gave notice that another minority report would be presented.

A memorial from Galveston, Texas, in relation to our Sunday-school lessons, was presented, and referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

A memorial of O. M. Addison, in regard to a Hymn and Tune Book, was presented, and referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

A resolution of F. W. Earnest and J. M. McTeer, "That no more resolutions be received by the Conference until the reports of committees that have been lying on the table for one day be acted on by the Conference," on motion of J. E. Evans, was laid on the table.

On motion of W. W. Bennett and E. E. Wiley, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Books and Periodicals be instructed to review and revise the Chapter on the Publishing Interests of the Church, adopted by the General Conference of 1866.

A resolution of M. Evans and R. Hiner, in reference to the organizing of baptized children into classes. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

On motion of R. J. Morgan and James Jackson, it was ordered that on and after Tuesday, May 19, the Conference will hold morning and afternoon sessions.

W. M. Leftwich, A. T. Scruggs, T. Polk, and N. Handy, offered a resolution in regard to Conference boundaries in Missouri. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

On motion of J. B. McFerrin and J. L. de Yampert, it was

Resolved, That this General Conference will not, after Monday next, entertain any memorial or resolution looking to a change of Discipline.

A motion of M. S. Andrews to lay it on the table was lost.

A resolution of G. A. Dannelly and J. Mackey, concerning the place of holding a Quarterly Conference, was referred to the Committee on Revisal.

H. A. Bourland and J. H. Pritchett offered a resolution relating to the printing of the Apostles' Creed in the Sunday-school Hymn and Tune Books, which was read, and referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

On motion of T. Polk and A. T. Scruggs,

Resolved, That hereafter immediately after the call for petitions, memorials, and appeals, the Conferences shall be called in order for resolutions.

I. L. Burrow, F. M. Paine, and W. T. Harris, offered a resolution referring to the price of our publications, which was read and referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

A motion of T. Ramsey, to reconsider the action by which the Montana Conference was organized, did not prevail.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That from and after this day the reports of committees, and other business of the Conference, be taken up in regular calendar order, and thus announced by the Chair, from which there shall be no departure, except in the case of special orders already made, without a two-thirds vote of the Conference.

A. A. GILBERT,

S. H. BROWNE.

A. G. Haygood, T. M. Meriwether, S. Anthony, W. H. Fleming, H. J. Adams, W. F. Cook, and W. H. Potter, presented a paper in reference to Orphans' Homes, which was referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. J. Clark, lay delegate from Trinity Conference, asked, but did not obtain, leave of absence.

An invitation was received from the Mayor and Council of Louisville to witness the parade of the Fire Department at 4 P.M.

Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Monday Morning, May 18, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Doggett in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by A. H. Redford.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop McTyeire then took the chair.

Lovick Pierce, lay reserve delegate of North Georgia Conference, appeared and took his seat, in place of A. H. Colquitt.

A memorial from M. Morgan and others, referring to the boundaries between the North Georgia and Holston Conferences, was presented, and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

A motion of W. B. Machen, to reconsider the vote by which the Minority Report No. 2 of the Committee on Sunday-schools was adopted, did not prevail, the vote being 71 to 76.

The delegates from the West St. Louis and Missouri Conferences offered a resolution respecting boundaries, which was read and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

J. M. McTeer and J. M. Winton offered a resolution favoring the

making of provision for the families of deceased ministers on probation, which was read and referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

H. A. Stollenwerck, of the Committee on Finance, presented a minority report for Report No. 2 of said committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rules. (See page 590.)

A. H. Redford and J. B. McFerrin offered a resolution respecting the support of families of deceased Bishops, which was read, and referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

M. S. Andrews and others offered a resolution respecting Presiding Elders' Districts, which was read and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

Whereas, in many sections of the Church it is altogether practicable and desirable to enlarge the Presiding Elders' Districts beyond the present disciplinary number of fourteen appointments; and, whereas, the missionary treasury is now frequently taxed to sustain the Presiding Eldership, in consequence of which the Domestic Missionary work in many places is greatly crippled; and, whereas, because of the impoverished condition of many portions of our territory at this time, the regular pastorate is heavily taxed on account of the limited field from which the Presiding Elder derives his support; and, whereas, it is the opinion of many that if a little more elasticity could be introduced into the machinery of the Church with regard to the formation and extent of Presiding Elders' Districts, that the popular objections to the venerable and necessary office will be greatly obviated; therefore,

Resolved, That the Bishops are hereby authorized to include in a Presiding Elder's District more than fourteen appointments, when in their judgment it may be advisable, and an Annual Conference shall so request: *provided* that no District shall be made so large that the Presiding Elder cannot hold two meetings a year, embracing Saturday and Sunday, on all the circuits.

J. HAMILTON,
M. S. ANDREWS,
JOHN E. EDWARDS,
JAMES A. DUNCAN,
P. A. PETERSON,
WILLIAM SHAPARD,
R. H. POWELL,
W. A. MCCARTY,
H. A. STOLLENWERCK,
J. W. HINTON.

W. M. Leftwich, W. B. Machen, and J. S. Lithgow, offered a resolution referring to the appointment of Sunday-school superintendents, which was read and referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

The order of the day being Report No. 1 of the Committee on Missions, and a Minority Report of A. R. Winfield of said committee, was taken up. Both reports were read.

The report of the majority was then acted upon item by item.

The Chair decided that as the adoption of the minority report was not moved, it was not in order.

L. M. Lee appealed from the decision of the Chair.

The decision of the Chair was sustained.

A motion was made to adopt Art. 1 of the proposed Constitution.

A. R. Winfield moved as a substitute the adoption of Art. 1 of the Constitution reported in the report of the minority.

After some discussion, on motion of J. Hamilton, both reports were recommitted, that the Committee on Missions may make a report combining the best features of both reports.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on Boundaries, laid on the table May 8, was taken up and acted upon item by item. A motion of J. M. Boland, to amend item 9 by striking out the word "not," did not obtain, and the report was adopted. (See pp. 409, 410.)

R. E. Anderson, lay delegate from the Missouri Conference; G. M. Jones, lay delegate from the West St. Louis Conference; and W. J. Clark, lay delegate from the Trinity Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence.

An invitation was received from J. P. Morton & Co. to visit their printing rooms.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by Dr. Thomas Maddin.

Tuesday Morning, May 19, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by H. H. Montgomery.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Keener then took the chair, and called for reports of standing committees.

J. E. Edwards, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 6 of said committee, which was read and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 6.

The preamble and resolution, signed by J. M. McTeer and J. M. Winton, inquiring into the expediency of so changing the law of the Church as to allow the widows and orphan children of deceased preachers, who were on *trial* in an Annual Conference, to receive relief from Conference funds, when, in the judgment of the Joint Board of Finance, such relief might be deemed proper, have received the consideration of the committee, with the recommendation that no change be made in the existing law of the Church on the subject.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

Also Report No. 7, on the Journals of the Annual Conferences, which was read, and, pending the reading, the order of the day, having arrived, was postponed to continue the action on the report.

The report was full and elaborate, and, on motion of W. M. Rush, was adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 7.

The Committee on Itinerancy have had under careful examination the Journals of the several Annual Conferences, embracing the Conference sessions held since the General Conference of 1870, and regret to be compelled to report no very marked improvement in these records as compared with the report made at the last General Conference.

At the General Conference of 1866, an order was made requiring "Secretaries of the several Annual Conferences to record *all the acts* of the Conference, of *every kind whatever*, in the consecutive order of their occurrence, or in an appendix," including "complaints, charges, specifications—with the decisions in all cases—all resolutions, reports of committees, statistics, memoirs, appointments of preachers, and whatever else enters into and constitutes a complete historical record of an Annual Conference." It was further ordered by the General Conference of 1866 that the *Bishops* should "supervise the Conference Journals" and "direct the Secretaries to the requirements of the General Conference as to the manner of keeping their Journals," and that they should "affix their signatures in all cases to the Minutes of the Conferences over which they preside."

The General Conference of 1870 further provided, by resolution, that the Secretaries "be requested to keep up a *running heading* from page to page of the Journals, stating the date of the Conference session," and that the *Bishops* "be respectfully requested to see that the regular questions are recorded by the Secretaries in their numerical

notation, and answered; and that they give particular direction as to the recording of the memoirs of the deceased preachers, *and the reports of committees.*"

After all this particularity, we are sorry to find the Journals of so many of the Conferences defective in the record of resolutions, reports of committees, statistics, and in various other particulars, necessary to constitute these Journals "a complete historical record of each Annual Conference."

1. We note a very general failure to record the regular questions under which, according to the Discipline, the business of the Conference should be journalized.

2. A general omission of charges and specifications in cases of trial.

3. Very defective records of reports of committees, etc.

4. A want of discrimination as to the official relation of preachers ordained, in the reports of the Bishops to the Secretaries. Query—Is it the duty of the Secretaries to make this discrimination?

5. In very many instances we discover that the Minutes are not read and approved.

6. In several instances, the Journals are without the signatures of the presiding Bishops.

7. Reports of statistics and other reports are, in several instances, in the form of printed slips, cut from newspapers and the printed Minutes, and pasted in an appendix to the Journal.

8. A general failure to keep up a running heading to the pages of the Journals, and very frequently an absence of marginal notes and references.

9. The business of the Conference transacted under a wrong notation of the questions.

10. In several instances, "a preacher in the chair," without any record of how he came there.

11. Frequently, of preachers received on trial, and into full connection, and also elected to orders, without any reference to examination on the Course of Study prescribed by the Bishops.

With these preliminary observations, to which we invite the particular attention of our Bishops, with the design of invoking their special attention to the records of the several Annual Conferences over which they may preside, hoping thereby to prevent the recurrence of the errors and defects to which we particularly allude, we proceed to submit the following criticisms on the Conference Journals.

Baltimore Conference.—The Journal of this Conference is pronounced above criticism. We take pleasure in reporting it as a

faultless specimen of journalism, in the record of all the proceedings of an Annual Conference, and as meeting all the requirements imposed on Conference Secretaries.

Virginia Conference.—The Journal reflects much credit on the Secretary. It is unexceptionable, except in the following particulars:

The roll-call stands on the record, at the opening of the Conference sessions, before the minute in relation to the religious exercises.

The report of the ordinations by the Bishops, at each of the Conferences, under review, is without any discrimination between local and traveling preachers.

The Journal is without marginal references or notes. In many instances questions not recorded, and where recorded, full answers not given.

There is a want of uniformity in the Minutes, in relation to the notice taken of the examinations on the Course of Study. Many of the reports are in the form of slips cut from the printed Minutes and pasted in the appendix.

In addition to the foregoing, we note an omission to record the fact that, an applicant for elder's orders, on the part of a local deacon, was accompanied by the "note certifying his belief in the doctrine and discipline of our Church."

The running heading, from page to page, and, from day to day, not kept up.

Western Virginia Conference.—The appendices of the Journal are largely made up of printed matter, clipped from newspapers, and pasted on the pages of the record book. In many instances, and for the most part, where the matter in the appendices is written, the same, instead of being neatly recorded in the pages of the Journal, has been pasted therein, giving these appendices more the appearance of a rough scrap-book than of a well-kept Journal.

Subjects in the form of notes, foot and marginal, which ought, in some instances, to have been inserted in the body of the proceedings, and in others, to have been omitted altogether, are found recorded. Of the former, is a note on page 137, and another on page 146, embodying communications from Bishop Kavanaugh, concerning the ordination of certain preachers. Of the latter, is a note by the Secretary, on page 153, explaining why he was called away from the Conference; and also a marginal note by the Secretary, on page 194, with reference to the report of a committee in his own case, which is out of place and in bad taste. In the case of J. C. Tinsley, noticed

on page 147, and in appendix, page 166, in which a trial was had, neither charges nor specifications are distinctly stated.

With the above exceptions, the Minutes are recorded with fullness and accuracy.

Holston Conference.—Journal for the most part correct. Twice during the Conference sessions of 1870 we find a member of the Conference in the chair without any note of his appointment by the Bishop, or otherwise. (See pages 316, 319.) Each session during the quadrennial term closed without reading the Minutes of the last meeting; as also of the evening session, 1873, page 108.

The record of 1873 is defaced by blurs and erasures. Aside from these minor defects, the record is almost a perfect model of journalism.

North Carolina Conference.—The Journal of this Conference is admirably kept in every particular. We cannot speak of it in terms of too high commendation. All the conditions of complete and thorough Conference journalism are met. More we need not say; but, if we were to descend to minute particulars, much more might be said in its praise and commendation.

South Carolina Conference.—This Journal also has much in its praise. We note, however, the following inaccuracies:

At the session of 1872 the character of several elders passed under Question 18, instead of Question 20. Under Question 1 two persons were admitted on trial without any reference to recommendation or examination.

Page 197, Question 6 is quoted as reading, "Who are admitted from other Conferences?" which is neither the language nor the sense of Question 6.

Page 222, under Question 17 the character of one elder is arrested, and the character of several others passed—business that should have come under Question 20.

Page 228, the character of several elders pass under Question 18.

On page 222 the character of Samuel Lander is passed, and he left effective. Page 225, under Question 20, the character of Samuel Lander is again passed (if this is the same person), and he is made effective. Query—Can a Conference make a man *effective*?

Page 232, we read, "The relation of S. A. Weber was changed, and was made *effective*." Did not the reconsideration of the vote by which he was made supernumerary, or superannuated, leave him *effective*?

North Georgia Conference.—Many excellences in this Journal, but still there are defects worthy of notice.

Session 1870, top of pages without date; pages 149, 155, examinations of elders without question being recorded; page 151, Question 12 should be 20. Page 156, John W. McGehee located without the Question 16, and not stated whether elder or deacon. Page 164, elders ordained without Question 13. Page 11, deacons ordained with same omission. Page 166, Minutes not read and approved. Reports kept in printed slips, pasted in appendix.

Session 1871, top of pages without heading. Page 180, Questions 17, 18, not recorded. Page 186, R. J. Howell passed examination of character without question, and not stated whether elder or deacon. Same in regard to E. P. Burch. Page 206, J. B. Payne superannuated without stating his previous relation, and without Question 18.

Session 1872, page 224, elders examined without Question 20. Also examinations without stating official relation to the Conference. No record of last day's proceedings being read and approved.

Session 1873, page 244, preachers admitted without Question 1 being asked—all done under Question 2.

South Georgia Conference.—The Journal of this Conference is well and neatly kept. At the session of 1870, page 83, the examination of character is taken up without the record of the question. This omission frequently occurs.

Page 85, Daniel Pope was "admitted," but the record does not say *how*, or to *what*.

Page 91, Minutes not read and approved.

Page 104, The Minutes do not show who are the superannuated.

Page 129, Report of Committee on Memoirs cut out of a printed paper and pasted on the Journal.

Page 153, W. H. Rogers admitted on trial without the question.

With these minor exceptions the Journal is worthy of high commendation. It is proper to add that there is no roll of members recorded at any session of the quadrennial term. We note also the absence of a running heading.

Florida Conference.—The Journal of this Conference, containing the records for 1871-72, was lost by accident.

The Journal for 1873-74 is in the main correct, and neatly kept. There is the absence of a running heading. Both sessions omit the statement that the Bishop took the chair, or occupied the chair.

On page 3, in proceedings of the session for 1873, there is the mention of certain resolutions being made the order of the day for a subsequent day, without any allusion to the mover, or to the fact that the resolutions had been offered.

On page 4, and elsewhere, reports of committees presented and adopted without being signed by the chairman or any one else.

At the session, January, 1874, page 16, the roll of members called, and 21 answered, so says the record, but no names are given. So of the lay delegates.

At the session of 1873, no mention of the Minutes being read and approved.

At the session of 1874, the record says, "Minutes of previous day read and *confirmed*." The Journal of 1873 not signed by the presiding Bishop.

Alabama Conference.—Journal in the main is well kept, though frequently marred by unsightly erasures and interlineations. A prefatory note to the session of 1870 calls it the *first* session of the Alabama Conference, and yet calls it the thirty-eighth session, because that would have been the number had the old Alabama Conference continued to exist. Page 11, "T. O. Summers in the chair," but the record does not show whether by appointment or election. Question 3 not recorded, yet appears that "R. T. Nabors and A. N. Gillespie were discontinued at their own request." Page 24, Minutes not read. Question 29 omitted, but answer given in the statistical report in appendix.

To the Minutes of the second session, 1871, there are no marginal notations. Questions 3, 11, 19, do not appear to have been asked, but on page 87 it is stated that the Committee on Memoirs made their report, which is duly recorded.

At the third, or fortieth session, page 135, "Rev. J. Hamilton in the chair," but not stated whether by appointment or election. Minutes of the last day's session not read and approved.

At the fourth, or forty-first session, page 207, no mention of presiding officer. Page 210, Question 29 not recorded. Page 213, Question 31 asked, and not answered till after adjournment.

North Alabama Conference.—Session 1870, no roll of clerical or lay members. Examination of character without suspending rules requiring closed doors. Page 18, we read, "Examination of character of elders resumed," without any record of the subject being called up before. Page 20, Minutes of last session not read and approved.

Session 1871, no roll of members. Page 42, election to orders before passage of character. Third day, Minutes not read and approved. Page 45, examination of character without suspending the rules. Page 47, committee in case of P. G. Jamison reported trial

necessary, without any record of charge and specifications. Page 50, committee in the same case report, "We, the committee, etc., find him guilty, etc., and therefore expel him from the Church." Page 57, report adopted, without reference to its being recorded. Minutes of last day's session not read and approved.

Session 1872, page 74, substitute offered—lost, but not recorded. Page 77, Minutes not approved. Same omission repeated. Statistical report badly recorded, blotted, and marred by erasures.

Session 1873, no roll of members; no suspension of the rule in the examination of character. Page 89, we note imperfect record as follows: "Rev. Mark S. Andrews, D.D., of the Alabama Conference." Page 96, afternoon session, Minutes not approved. Pages 96, 97, election of delegates to the General Conference hard to understand. Page 98, we have a record, very much out of place, of Missionary Anniversary, also of meetings on Sabbath, with comments on sermons, speeches, etc., such as, "Bishop Marvin preached a most powerful, and edifying, and able sermon." Pages 104, 109, 111, reports adopted, but no note of record. Questions not all asked at either of the sessions. In many respects the Journal, as a whole, is deserving of a highly creditable measure of commendation.

Louisiana Conference.—The heading of the Minutes of the twenty-fifth session gives the correct date, January 4, 1871; the record of the opening of the Conference states, "Conference assembled January 4, 1870." (See page 146.)

The Minutes of second day of same session do not show who presided at the opening of the Conference, but after the record of considerable business, it is stated, "Bishop Marvin took the chair." (See pages 148, 149.) (Bishop Doggett presided first day.) A similar omission occurs page 203, second day of twenty sixth session.

Supernumerary and superannuated relations granted by the Conference are recorded under Question 20, page 148. On page 166, at "Question 10 resumed," the word deacons should be substituted for *elders*. Questions 19 and 20 should be 27 and 28 on page 209.

On page 218 we find the following: "Question 20. What has been collected on the foregoing accounts (widows, orphans, superannuated, and Bishops), and how has it been applied?" This question embodies the substance of Question 28, with some enlargements and additions.

Question 5 is omitted throughout the Minutes of the whole quadrennial term. Questions 16, 29, and 30 are omitted in the Minutes of the sessions held 1871-72. Questions 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26 are omitted at the sessions of 1872-73. Questions 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17,

and 18 are omitted, session 1871. Beginning on page 178, and extending to page 179, we find this entry—viz.: “Questions 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26, were taken up, when the statistics were read by the Secretary.” These questions, however, are nowhere stated in the Minutes of this session.

On page 169, the adoption of a report on the “religious interests of the colored people” is noted, but no part of the report recorded. A similar omission occurs on page 203—“Response to proffer of hospitality by Vicksburg.” Throughout the Minutes only the resolutions accompanying reports are entered upon the Journal, except the reports of Committees on Memoirs, which are recorded in full.

In the Minutes of the twenty-fifth session no distinction is made in the record of ordinations between traveling and local preachers. (See page 172.) The Minutes of several days’ proceedings do not show that the Minutes of the preceding meetings were read and approved. See Minutes of “evening session,” fifth day, Monday, January 4, 1871, page 176; also fifth day, Monday, January 8, 1872, page 211, and afternoon of same day, page 220; also afternoon, Monday, January 13, 1873, page 252.

The statistics, spread on the Journal in tabular form, precede all other records of the various sessions of the Conference held January, 1872, 1873, 1874; and the questions to which the statistical tables answer are stated at only one place in the Journal, page 303, in the proceedings of the fifth day of the session held January, 1874; and neither here, nor at any other place in the Minutes of the Conference, is any reference made to the pages of the Journal on which the answers to these questions may be found. On page 303—only place where these questions are recorded—some aggregates are stated under these questions, and the Sunday-school aggregates thus stated do not correspond to the aggregates found in the statistical tables.

The statistical tables of the session held January, 1871, covering twelve pages, are inserted between parts of the Minutes of the second day’s proceedings of this session, though that day’s Minutes show the transaction of no business pertaining to these statistics.

Twenty pages intervene between parts of the Minutes of the second day of session held January, 1873; and two pages of the Minutes of this day are found on the leaf of the Journal next after the page containing the signatures of the President and the Secretary of the Conference at the close of the records of the session; the pages of this leaf, however, are marked in consecutive order with the page on which the Minutes of the second day begin, so that pages 241 and

242 stand between pages 262 and 263 of the Journal, and page 243 faces 240.

On page 249 we find the following: "On motion of S. S. Scott, Conference reconsidered the vote by which J. Gorton Miller was located." No farther record of the case.

On pages 242 and 243, in stating the recognition of the orders of two ministers coming from another denomination, no mention is made of the recommendation of either by a Quarterly Conference.

Notwithstanding the exceptions taken to this Journal, there is much in the style and form of its Minutes worthy of commendation. Each page has a heading, showing the day of the session, of the week, and of the month, as well as the year in which the proceedings there recorded were had. Full and neat statistical tables are found in the Journal, answering to each year of the quadrennial term.

There is a marked improvement in the style of the Minutes of the last two sessions of the Conference. Marginal notes indicate the subjects found on each page of the Minutes of these sessions. The Minutes of the last session show a decided improvement over the Minutes of any previous one of the whole term.

Mississippi Conference.—The following omissions, etc., attract attention:

December 16, 1870 (page 318), under the first question, Who are admitted on trial? the *names* of those admitted are recorded, but it is not stated that they were severally recommended, or that any vote of Conference was taken upon their admission. A similar record for 1871, December 13, page 2. Same, also, December 12, 1872, page 28. Same, also, December 12, 1873, page 57. Question 2, on page 28, December 12, 1872, it is stated that James J. Smylie was passed and elected to deacon's orders. It is not recorded that he was examined on the Course of Study of the second year.

Under the fourth question, it is not stated that those admitted into full connection were examined either upon the Course of Study or by the Bishop before the Conference. See page 29, December 12, 1872; also page 31, December 13, 1873. Page 318, December 13, 1870, under eighth question, H. P. Brown admitted and elected to deacon's orders.

Page 29, December 12, 1872, under Question 20, local preachers elected to deacon's orders—not stated that their recommendations were presented. Similar omission under Question 14, in the election of local preachers to elder's orders. Page 30, December 13, 1872, it is stated that "Oliver H. P. Davis, an elder from the Congregational

Methodist Church, was recognized as a member of the Conference in the same standing."

Page 18, December 19, 1871, "J. T. Heard in the chair," but not stated how he came there—by request of the President [or otherwise]. No reports recorded except statistics. Nothing but mere abstracts appear. Minutes of last two sessions not read and approved. With these exceptions the Journal is correct.

North Mississippi Conference.—The Journal is admirably well kept, and deserves high commendation. We note, however, a few defects. At the session of 1870, in answer to Question 7, we read, "Thomas P. Ramsey having stood an approved examination on the Course of Study, and Pinkney A. Johnson *not* having passed the examination, their characters passed." At the session of 1872 we note an omission (page 70) to record the reading and approval of the [Minutes of the] previous session. Like omissions on pages 73 and 75. On page 72 occurs a minute of the trial and expulsion of R. A. Roach from the Church, but no record of charges and specifications. On page 100, session of 1873, an omission to note the reading of the Minutes.

Memphis Conference.—Journal remarkably well kept, in all particulars, and yet a few defects attract attention. There are no dates at the top of the page. On page 207 the asterisks do not satisfactorily denote the absent members. On page 317 the word *Mississippi* is left out of the name of the North Mississippi Conference. Same page, the Journal says, "Question 8 was resumed," while this is the first time that Question 8 is called and recorded at that session of the Conference. On page 371 the Journal shows that a member, not appointed by the Bishop, and not elected by the Conference, took the chair, and presided over the Conference.

Tennessee Conference.—The Journal of 1870-71 was destroyed by the fire that consumed the Publishing House at Nashville. The record of the sessions for 1872-73 meets all the requirements of correct, thorough, and complete journalism.

Kentucky Conference.—The Journal, in the main, is accurately and neatly kept, and is worthy of almost unqualified praise. The following errors and omissions require notice: The Journal is without a running heading. At the session held at Paris, September 9, 18—, the Bishop's signature is placed before the record of the Appointments of the preachers.

Louisville Conference.—The record of the session of 1870 is full and neatly journalized. We note only two omissions of important Conference proceedings. On page 95 it is stated that "nominations

of officers of Sunday-school Society were presented, as follows," but there is no record of the names nor of the action of the Conference. Nor is there any record of the appointment of the "Joint Board of Finance." There are some verbal inaccuracies, as, for instance, "admitted" instead of "elected," in Question 12, page 65; and a number of the Minute questions are answered without recording the question, as in the statistical report and the list of Appointments. Bating inaccuracies like these, the Journal for the session of 1870 is worthy of commendation.

The Journal for the sessions for 1871, 1872, and 1873, are more defective. The report of the Board of Missions for 1871 is not recorded, and there is confusion in the record concerning the report of the Committee on Memoirs, pages 144 and 160. Frequent omission to state who was in the chair. Pages 188, 205, 251, and 253. Resolutions introduced and motions made, but no record of the action of the Conference in relation thereto. Pages 193, 256, 258, 260, 265, 271, 272, etc. No running heading is kept up from page to page. There is need of more care in recording the regular questions in the order of business. The distinction between Questions 11 and 13 is not properly observed. With the exception of such defects as these, the Journal of the Louisville Conference is kept with great neatness and care. The records are made, in the main, without erasures, interlineations, or important omissions. The penmanship is excellent, and the general appearance of the Journal is every way commendable.

St. Louis Conference.—With very many excellences deserving praise in the Journal of this Conference, we have occasion to call attention to the following omissions and errors: Page 46, October 19, 1872, J. C. Duncan and C. E. Dunaway (?) are called, passed, and admitted—not stated that they were examined by the Bishop before the Conference, or by Committee on the Course of Study prescribed by the Bishops. Minutes not read and approved, October 19, 20, 1872. No statistics of 1873 recorded. Journal of 1873 not signed by the presiding Bishop. The Journal is wanting in marginal references.

West St. Louis Conference.—The Journal of this Conference has much to commend, and but little to criticise. There are, nevertheless, inaccuracies that cannot be permitted to pass without note. Page 61, P. W. Duncan is located on motion of a brother, but the cause of location not stated. Page 73, Committee of Finance presented report which was adopted, but not recorded. At the opening of the session in 1870 it is stated that Bishop D. S. Doggett was present and presided, but no mention is made of any one being in the chair from

that day onward till the close of the session. The Journal is signed by the presiding Bishop.

Missouri Conference.—The Journal of this Conference is neatly kept, and manifestly by a good secretary; and yet the committee feel called on to report some errors and omissions.

Session of 1870, page 186, under Question 2, "Who remain on trial?" Characters were passed without any statement of examination. Page 187, Question 6 ought to be 7, "Who are deacons of one year?" Seven preachers' characters are passed without any statement that they had been previously examined. Page 188, Question 8, "Who are elected deacons?" No record of their being examined. Page 192, constitution of a missionary society read, with reference to appendix, but not recorded. The questions in relation to statistics not asked. Statistics not recorded; or, if so, in no record before the committee.

Session of 1871, Question 2, pages 222 and 223, "Who remain on trial?" No statement of examinations; and this omission often occurs in the records of this Conference. No statistics of the number of baptisms, Sunday-schools, local preachers, or of members, in any record submitted to your committee.

Session 1872, statistics omitted as before.

Session 1873, the only reports recorded for this session are on education, Conference collections, and Bishops' fund.

There is the omission, in all the sessions, of the questions in relation to statistics. It is verbally stated to the committee that there is a separate statistical record kept by the Missouri Conference.

Western Conference.—The pages of the Journal for the sessions of 1870, 1871, and 1872, are omitted. 1870, no marginal index. 1871, index imperfect.

Session 1871, under Question 2, a name is mentioned as having passed to the second year, but it is not stated that he had passed his examination. Same omission under Questions 7 and 12.

Session 1872, second day, Minutes of previous day not read and approved. Under Question 1, several preachers received on trial without any statement of recommendation by Quarterly Conferences, or examination by committee. Third day, Minutes not read and approved.

Session 1873, no answers found to Questions 9 and 13; though, in answer to 12, it is stated that one preacher had been elected to elder's orders; and in answer to Question 8, that several had been elected to deacon's orders.

With the above exceptions, the Journal has the qualities of a correct record of Conference proceedings.

Indian Mission Conference.—Session 1870, page 259, the *given* names of persons appointed on committee not stated. Page 260, no statement of who occupied the chair at the opening of the morning session. Page 271, like omission. Page 278, comments on what was done outside the Conference recorded.

Session 1871, third day, page 291, Minutes not read and approved. Page 294, record of what occurred on Sunday after the Conference adjourned. Page 300, Question 20, improperly recorded. Pages 314 and 315, Minutes read: "Conference adjourned Saturday;" after which, the following record appears: "Sunday morning, October 6th, the following brethren were ordained deacons and elders"—(giving the names), "and then the Appointments were read out, and the Conference adjourned."

Arkansas Conference.—We find a number of defects and errors in the Journal. In the record for 1870, no marginal notes, and no statistical report. Several of the questions do not appear to have been asked. The Minutes of the fourth, fifth, and sixth days not read and approved. Journal very much marred by erasures and interlineations.

Session of 1871, the Minutes of the third, fifth, and sixth days not read and approved. So of one day's proceedings at the session of 1872. The record of 1873 is found unexceptionable, and deserving of high commendation.

White River Conference.—The Journal is praiseworthy in very many respects, but is nevertheless marked by inaccuracies.

At the session in 1870, W. R. Young was elected to elder's orders under Question 4, without explanation. A few notable inaccuracies in orthography, and a little bad grammar, attract notice. Questions 12 and 13 are omitted at the session of 1872. On page 51 the record says: "The following persons were added" to a certain committee, but the names are not given. Page 53, Question 4 is numbered 3. Question asked, but no answer recorded. No marginal notes in the record of 1871. In recording the Appointments for 1872, the preacher's name is put first, and then the circuit or station.

The record for the Conference session of 1873 appears faultless. Altogether it is a respectable specimen of journalism.

Little Rock Conference.—Journal defective in several particulars. Session 1870, page 137, Minutes of last day's proceedings not read and approved, and so of the last day for four consecutive sessions.

Session 1871, names of lay delegates not entered at the opening of the session. Page 147, Question 2 not recorded; so of Question 7. Page 157, preachers are located and superannuated without any question or *motion*, so far as the record shows. Page 261, Question 1 "laid over," "C. G. Gadden and Z. T. McCann laid over," and afterward admitted under Question 2.

Session 1873, page 305, "Who are admitted on trial?" Answer, "James L. Nabors *not* admitted."

The Secretary enters the names of those ordained on *Sunday*, as though the Conference were in session on that day.

With these, and a few other like imperfections, the Journal contains a correct record of the Conference business.

Trinity Conference.—This Journal, while it shows great freedom from blots and great neatness in execution, is nevertheless so wanting in accuracy, in perspicuity, in fullness and detail of Conference business as to render it exceedingly defective in all the purposes of a Conference Journal. The effort to abridge often leaves the facts to be reached by nothing short of guessing. Important documents are usually referred to appendices, which are not to be found. Disciplinary questions are often omitted altogether, and questions are frequently asked, but not answered (p. 127).

A session begins in the afternoon and ends in the forenoon of the same day (pp. 122 and 123).

Candidates are reported and advanced; but by what authority, whether Quarterly Conferences, Presiding Elders, and committees had done their duties in the premises, does not appear (p. 133).

The *name* of a Bishop is given, but what part he took in the Conference, or whether he was present, is not stated (p. 134).

The Journal was not read and approved (pp. 143 and 156).

The Secretary only designates important reports as Nos. "3," "8," "6," and "7," and not even the page given to the wanting appendix where Nos. "3," "8," "6," and "7" are said to be found.

Finally, the Journal is so wanting in proper heading that should the *word Trinity* be lost from the back of the book, the Conference would be in danger of losing, not only much, or all of its records, but its very *name* also.

East Texas Conference.—There is no roll of members for the session of 1870, and no marginal notes or references. Verbal inaccuracies and false orthography occur. Page 21, Samuel Morris is said to have transferred from Arkansas Conference; whereas on page 1, he is reported to have transferred from Little Rock Conference.

Session 1871, page 12, Question 27 not in the exact language of the Discipline, and Question 28 omitted as a distinct question.

Session 1872, page 9 (Secretary's number), there is a reference to a book of reports, but no such book accompanies the Journal. Similar reference on page 12. No record of reports of committees, at this session, except now and then of a special committee. The Minutes appear to be signed for the presiding Bishop by the Secretary, but no note made of it.

Session 1873, Journal not paged. Reference to a report, but no record of it to be found. In other respects the Journal is correct.

Texas Conference.—At the thirty-first session, held at Chappell Hill, December 14, 1870, the Journal contains no record of the names of deacons ordained by the presiding Bishop, though elections are noted.

Questions 3, 6, 9, 11, and from 12 to 20, as also from 20 to 30, not asked, as appears from the Journal, and much business transacted, covered by regular questions, which are not recorded, though answered.

Thirty-second Session, 1871. Questions 3, 6, 9, 11, 13, from 14 to 20, and from 20 to 31, not recorded, though the general run of business covered by these omitted questions was transacted. Several *locations* granted not recorded under the proper question. Appointments of preachers under Question 30 instead of 31.

Thirty-third Session, 1872. But *nine* questions of all the thirty-one recorded, though the business under the omitted questions was transacted. The Minutes of the third day's proceedings not read and approved.

Thirty-fourth Session, 1873. Many questions not recorded. Proceedings of the fifth and sixth days not read and approved. No report of ordinations by the presiding Bishop.

With the exceptions noted, the Journal of this Conference is scarcely surpassed by any, in the clearness, fullness, and completeness of its records. Great care has evidently been bestowed upon it, and it would be unjust not to mention its very many excellences. The plan of keeping the statistics is especially worthy of notice and of high commendation.

North-west Texas Conference.—Journal exceedingly defective. We give but a specimen of its errors, omissions, etc.:

Session 1870, page 102, "The roll was called and several members not present yesterday responded to their names and took their seats." Names not recorded. Page 103, and elsewhere, under-graduates advanced without mention of previous examination on studies. Same

page, local preachers elected to elder's orders, without any record of recommendation, or note of their belief in our doctrine and discipline. Questions omitted, but answers given substantially (page 104). This error frequently occurs.

November 19, statistical report recorded in advance of its presentation to Conference—no report of action on it. Page 111, a motion to locate S. S. Yarbrough put, and lost, but no *cause* assigned for locating him. Page 117, Minutes not read and approved. Page 123, report on education not signed by chairman.

Session 1871, page 144, same omission as at former session in relation to the election of local deacons and elders to orders—no recommendation. Page 145, same omission in relation to preachers received on *trial*. Page 145, and elsewhere, no space left in the Journal between the sessions from day to day. Page 146, "Conference adjourned to meet at 3½ P.M."—no record of that session. Page 152, "The first, second, and third items were *respectfully* taken up," etc. Minutes of the last session not read and approved.

Session 1872, page 174, same omission as at session of 1870—on the second day. Pages 174 and 175, preachers admitted as before, without record of examination, etc. Page 185, Minutes not read and approved.

Session 1873, repetition of omissions noted at previous sessions—pages 204, 205, and 207, 208.

West Texas Conference.—This Journal is also defective. We report but a few of its errors.

Page 6, "J. H. Tucker, local preacher, having passed a satisfactory examination, and having satisfied the Conference that he had preached four years, he was elected to deacon's orders." Nothing said about recommendation by a Quarterly Conference. Page 14, Minutes not signed by the Secretary. Page 59, the year not given in which the fourteenth session was held. Page 74, not stated who was in the chair. Page 92, it is recorded, "Was *read* to the Conference," but *what* was read not stated.

General omission to note examinations and recommendations.

Los Angeles Conference.—The Journal is defective in several particulars, mainly, however, in that the matter is not paragraphed, creating confusion, as to its apparent order; reports are referred to in the appendix without any notation by letter, figure, or page by which to turn to them; imperfect statements of facts, such as (page 12), "The Minutes were read up," without any indication of formal approval by the Conference; and again (page 26), "What amounts are necessary

for the support of widows and orphans?" Answer—"None." Once more, on page 25, "The hour for adjournment was *prolonged*." Bating these small defects, the Journal has the qualities of a full and clear record of the Conference proceedings.

Pacific Conference.—Session 1870, no roll of members, clerical or lay, recorded. Page 6, committee of trial in the case of George E. Dean without any preliminary steps. Page 23, similar omission in case of J. L. Buchard, and his name stricken from the roll without due form of trial. Date of sessions omitted. Page 28, no date; Minutes not read and approved. The following questions, only, recorded: 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 10, and 14. No running heading to the pages. Reports recorded in the body of the Minutes instead of appendix.

Session 1871, no roll of members. Page 33, examination of character without suspension of the rule requiring closed doors. Only a portion of the questions recorded. Minutes do not show where the next session was to be held.

Session 1872, no roll of members. No mention of the seat of the next Conference. Minutes not signed by the Secretary.

Session 1873, no roll of members. Page 107, Question 20 called, but no action suspending rule requiring closed doors. No report of Sunday-schools. Minutes not signed by the Secretary.

Columbia Conference.—This Journal is exceedingly defective. It would occupy too much space to note its omissions and inaccuracies.

Fifth Session, 1870, page 85, report of committee on complaint against J. W. Stahl adopted, and his character passed, but no intimation of the nature of the complaint or report. Page 94, no Minutes read; no adjournment noted. Same omission, pages 95 and 96. No question after 20 asked, except 30 and 31.

Sixth Session, 1871, no running heading or marginal notes. Page 109, under Question 2, Question 3 is answered. Same page, "S. S. report adopted," and said to be recorded, but no record of it found. Pages 115 and 116, no record of reading Minutes. Questions 3, 11, 16, 21, 26, 29, not asked—at least not recorded.

Seventh Session, 1872, marginal notes omitted. Pages 126, 130, and 131, no record of reading Minutes. Only questions asked were the following: 6, 10, 12, 14, and 20; and yet the usual Conference business was transacted.

Eighth Session, 1873, no marked improvement in the Journal.

Illinois Conference.—The Journal neatly kept. We note the omission of the recorded reports of the usual committees, and of the

Joint Board of Finance, for the last four years. The session of 1873 adjourned without reading the Minutes of the last day. In other respects the Journal appears correct, and is deserving of high commendation.

In order to promote uniformity and completeness in our Conference Journals, the committee recommend the adoption, by the General Conference, of the following resolutions, viz.:

Resolved, 1. That it is necessary and proper, for the completeness of the Conference record, that the Secretary, *in all cases*, where an approved examination is required by law of the Discipline on the Course of Study prescribed by the Bishops, as a condition precedent to reception on trial, continuance on trial, election to deacon's and elder's orders, etc., a statement of the *fact* of such examination, as also of the recommendation of a Quarterly Conference, where required by law, should form a part of the record.

Resolved, 2. That in the event of the failure of a Bishop of an Annual Conference, in reporting his ordinations to the Conference, to mention who are *traveling*, and who are *local* preachers, it is the duty of the Secretary to make such a discrimination in his record.

Resolved, 3. That it is the duty of the Secretary to record *all* the Disciplinary questions (stating their numerical notation) under which the business of the Conference is to be transacted, and of recording the business under the appropriate questions, and not at random, and without the question duly recorded.

Resolved, 4. That the *fact* that the application of a local deacon for elder's orders is duly accompanied by "a *note* certifying his belief in the doctrine and discipline of our Church," should be recorded by the Secretary.

Resolved, 5. That the Bishops be, and they are hereby, earnestly requested to direct the attention of the Secretaries to these and to all other resolutions adopted by the General Conference respecting their duties in keeping the Journal.

Resolved, 6. That the General Book Agent at Nashville, with the assistance of the Secretary of the General Conference, be instructed to print on a convenient slip of paper all the foregoing resolutions, together with the resolutions and other instructions touching this subject, adopted at the sessions of our General Conference in 1866 and in 1870, to be furnished to the Secretaries of Annual Conferences, to be pasted in their Journals for constant reference.

We have noticed instances of irregularity and a want of uniformity

in the administration; but no example of sufficient magnitude to require special notice presents itself.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

The order of the day, being the Report of the Committee on Church Trials, was then taken up.

A motion of Anson West, to lay it on the table, did not prevail.

The report was acted upon item by item.

Article 1, On the Trial of a Bishop, was read.

On motion of J. H. Pritchett, the Article was amended by substituting the word "alleged" for "supposed."

A motion of Anson West, to lay the whole section on the table, was lost.

A motion of P. A. Peterson, to strike out the words "or the Presiding Elder of the District in which the offense is alleged to have been committed," was laid on the table.

G. M. Winton called for the previous question; the call was sustained.

The question was put, and the item was adopted.

Article 2 was read, and the committee accepted an amendment of J. E. Evans, to wit: "Twenty-one" was substituted for "fifteen," and "thirteen" for "nine."

On motion of H. A. C. Walker, the words "not less than" were stricken out.

The second item was then adopted.

Article 3 was read.

A motion of J. Hamilton, to strike out the words "depose and expel," was lost.

A motion of J. O. A. Clark, to strike out "depose him from his office and," was lost.

On motion of L. M. Lee, the Article was amended, by inserting the words "of two-thirds" after the word "majority."

The vote was taken, and division called for, and the motion was carried by a vote of 106 to 51.

A motion of J. B. Hunnicutt, to reconsider the vote by which item 3 was adopted, was, on motion of A. R. Winfield, laid on the table.

Articles 4 and 5 were read and adopted.

Article 6 was read.

W. Shapard offered the following amendment:

"Charges of maladministration against a Bishop shall be heard by

the General Conference, through its Committee on Episcopacy, and passed upon by the General Conference, whose judgment shall be final."

On motion of A. R. Winfield and J. B. McFerrin, the following substitute for the item and the amendment was adopted by a vote of 72 to 64:

"6. Charges of maladministration against a Bishop shall be presented to the General Conference through the Committee on Episcopacy, and the action of the Conference shall be final."

Articles 7 and 8 were read and adopted.

Bishop McTyeire then came forward and addressed the Conference in regard to the proposed section, "Of the Trial of a Bishop." He gave reasons at length for preferring the law as it now stands in the Discipline.

On motion of M. S. Andrews, the vote was reconsidered by which the Conference ordered an afternoon session, and the Conference adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The doxology was sung, and the benediction was pronounced by Bishop Kavanaugh.

Wednesday Morning, May 20, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Keener in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by T. Stanford.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Paine took the chair, and admonished the members not to be in haste to leave the Conference.

W. A. Fort, lay delegate from North-west Texas Conference; J. S. Kennedy, clerical delegate from Holston Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence. J. Atkins, reserve, took the place of J. S. Kennedy.

A. L. P. Green, clerical delegate from the Tennessee Conference, asked, through A. H. Redford, leave of absence on account of illness; also R. Browder, lay delegate of the Louisville Conference, for the same reason. Leave was granted.

J. H. Mann, lay delegate from the Arkansas Conference, and T. C. Smith, lay delegate from the North Carolina Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence.

L. M. Lee, Chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. 5 of said committee, on making allowance for the families of deceased Bishops, which was read; the rule requiring it to lie on the table one day was suspended, and the report was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 5.

Your committee have had under consideration the resolution referred to them and signed by A. H. Redford and J. B. McFerrin, directing the Committee on Episcopacy to consider the subject of making provision for the families of deceased Bishops, and unanimously recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Discipline, page 146, Chap. 9, Sec. 3, paragraph 1, be amended by inserting after the word "expenses" "and of the widows and orphan children of deceased Bishops."

The whole paragraph thus amended would read as follows:

1. The allowance of the Bishops for salary and traveling expenses, and of the widows and orphan children of deceased Bishops, shall be estimated by the Committee on Episcopacy of the General Conference, and they shall divide the amount between the several Annual Conferences, according to the ability of the Conferences.

LEROY M. LEE, Chairman.

J. E. Edwards, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 8 of said committee, which was read.

W. F. Cook, of said committee, presented a minority report, signed by himself and eight other members of the committee, which was read.

Both reports were laid over for one day—the latter under the rules—a motion of W. F. Cook to suspend the rules not prevailing. They are as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 8.

The three several papers, signed by Lovick Pierce and J. S. Key, asking, by resolution, for changes in the Discipline, especially relating to certain *administrative qualifications* in those preachers who may be received on *trial* in an Annual Conference and assigned to pastoral oversight, as also of preachers in full connection who are in pastoral charge of circuits and stations, seeking to introduce such a change as shall make *administrative* ability and qualification a test of continuance on trial, and of reception into full connection, on the one hand, and of making non-efficiency a ground of complaint against a preacher in full connection, on the passage of his character, on the other, together with a series of questions to be asked in a Quarterly Conference touching the official administration of the preacher in charge of pastoral work, have received the patient, careful, and long-continued consideration of the committee. They have been considered the more carefully because of the high and honored source whence the inquiries

emanate, as well also as for the importance of the changes which the papers seek to effect. But, after a calm and thorough review of the whole subject, the committee, by a small majority, think that, in view of the fact that the *spirit* and *intention* of most that is embraced in the proposed changes is already incorporated in the Discipline, and from the farther consideration that some of the points involved in these papers have already been considered and favorably reported on by the Committee on Revisal, it is scarcely necessary, in order to compass the end proposed, to make the changes drawn out in the resolutions before us. We, therefore, respectfully submit the following resolution for the adoption of the Conference as the most satisfactory mode, just now, of disposing of the papers in question:

Resolved, That the suggestions of the venerable Lovick Pierce, D.D., in regard to the administrative qualifications of probationers in an Annual Conference, and in relation to minute inquiry into the official administration of all who are in pastoral charge, are timely, and deserving of serious thought; but, inasmuch as many of the points embraced in his papers are already in the purview of existing provisions in our Discipline, and some of the questions proposed to be asked in Quarterly Conferences are already recommended in Report No. 2 of the Committee on Revisal, we, therefore, think that no special, independent action should be taken on the resolutions referred to the Committee on Itinerancy touching these points, but that preachers in charge, and Presiding Elders, should heed the suggestions of our venerable father, and profit by his earnest wish that special attention should be given to the administrative qualifications of those in pastoral charge.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN E. EDWARDS, Chairman.

MINORITY REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, NO. 8.

The undersigned, a minority of the Committee on Itinerancy, disagreeing with the majority in relation to the resolutions signed by Lovick Pierce and J. S. Key, recommending changes in the Discipline, referring especially to the administrative qualities of a traveling preacher, propose for the adoption of the Conference the following—viz.:

1. That Ans. 3, Chap. 3, Sec. 5, p. 75, of the Discipline be so amended and changed as to read as follows:

“The Annual Conference may then admit him as a probationer by a vote of the majority. Observe—This relation of being on trial embraces the requisites of a competent pastorate, and must apply as well to proper administrative qualifications as to acceptable preaching

ability. One on trial may be discontinued for want of efficiency in either of these respects, without doing him any wrong; otherwise it would be no trial at all."

2. That Chap. 2, Sec. 2, be amended by inserting as Ans. 4 to Ques. 7, page 45, the following:

"Ans. 4. But if the complaint be wholly on account of habitual failure in official administration, and any member of the Conference objects to the passage of his character, wholly on this account, the question, Shall his character pass? shall be put on this point alone. And if a majority of the Conference refuse to pass his character because he is not blameless in official administration, the Conference shall grant him an honorable location: *provided*, nevertheless, if the delinquent preacher desires to be tried another year (making suitable acknowledgments), and promises, if tried another year, to come up to the measure of his duty in these respects, the Conference may employ him another year, and upon the issues of that year shall depend his restoration or absolute location."

The notation of the remaining answer to be changed accordingly.

3. That Chap. 3, Sec. 3, Ans. 6 to Ques. 1, p. 68, be so amended as to add, after the words, "Whether the rules respecting the instruction of children have been faithfully observed," the following, viz.: "Whether the preacher in charge administers the sacraments, holds Church Conferences, enforces moral discipline, and attends to the collections assessed on his charge, and to report to the Annual Conference the names of all delinquent traveling preachers within his District." Respectfully submitted.

W. F. COOK,
J. M. BOLAND,
S. S. SPURGIN,
T. W. MOORE,
M. EVANS,
J. O. A. CLARK,
JOHN S. MARTIN,
F. M. PAINE,
GEORGE SIM.

R. Alexander, Chairman of the Committee on Boundaries, presented Report No. 3 of said committee, which was read and laid over under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES, NO. 3.

The Committee on Boundaries submit the following report, No. 3:

1. We recommend that all that part of the State of Indiana not

included in the New Albany and Jeffersonville Appointments, be attached to the Illinois Conference, thus granting the memorial signed Wescott and Jones.

2. We recommend that the memorial from the East Texas Conference concerning the boundary line between that Conference and Trinity be granted, so that the portion of Harrison county now included in the Trinity Conference, and so much of the counties of Upshur, Smith, Vanzandt, and Kaufman as shall be required to make a straight line from the north-west corner of Harrison county to said point on the Trinity River be, and the same is hereby, transferred to and made a part of the East Texas Conference.

3. That the petition of Cyprus Valley Church, to be placed in the Little Rock Conference, be *not* granted.

4. That the petition to transfer Dade county to the North Georgia Conference be not granted.

5. The resolution of W. M. Leftwich and others, instructing the committee to inquire into the "expediency of so changing the Conference boundaries in Missouri as to make two Conferences, with the dividing line running north and south," after due deliberation the committee conclude that it is not expedient to recommend the proposed change. But in view of the various memorials and resolutions from Missouri touching the question of boundaries, your committee recommend that the three Conferences in Missouri be, and they are hereby, authorized to readjust their boundaries at any time during the next four years, in any manner that may be deemed best for the general work, by and through any joint commission or consultation that they may agree to appoint for that purpose.

6. That the memorial of Brothers Long and McTeer, to allow the Church near Graysville to belong to the Holston Conference, be granted.

R. ALEXANDER, Chairman.

W. M. LEFTWICH, Secretary.

H. W. Foote, from the Committee on Sunday-schools, presented Report No. 6 of said committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, NO. 6.

1. The committee has had under consideration the memorial from the Sunday-schools in Galveston, Texas, on the subject of changing the system of Uniform Lessons so as to adopt the text of the International Series, and instructed me to report that they have previously

considered and reported upon that subject, and that the General Conference has adopted their report.

2. The committee has also considered the resolution of Rev. Morris Evans and others, on the subject of organizing baptized children of the Church for the purpose of instructing them, etc., and has instructed me to report that this resolution applies to *all* children, while the duties of the committee relate to Sunday-schools only, and ask that said resolution be referred to the Committee on Revisal.

3. The committee has also had under consideration the resolution signed by Rev. W. M. Leftwich and others, which is as follows, to wit:

Amend Ans. 2, Sec. 5, p. 114 of the book of Discipline, by adding thereto the following:

“And shall elect superintendents of Sunday-schools on the nomination of the preacher in charge, after consultation with the officers and teachers of such schools.”

In which the committee concurs, and has instructed me to recommend the adoption of the amendment.

Respectfully submitted. H. W. FOOTE, Chairman *pro tem*.

Trusten Polk, Chairman of the Committee on Education, presented Report No. 2 of said committee, which was read and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, NO. 2.

To the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South:

RESPECTED AND BELOVED BRETHREN:—Your Committee on Education, to whom was referred the memorial of the Virginia Annual Conference, praying this General Conference “to provide for the establishment of District schools throughout the Church, according to the plan already adopted by the Holston Conference,” beg leave to report that they have considered the memorial, and upon inquiry have ascertained that the Holston Conference have adopted no plan for the establishment of District schools. But, after mature deliberation on the subject-matter referred to in the memorial, they have concluded to recommend that this Conference adopt the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Conference recommend that, as far as practicable, Southern Methodist schools be established in every District of our work, provided that they be strictly tributary to, and, in no case, in conflict with, our colleges, male or female, or any other of our institutions of a higher grade.

In this connection your committee beg to call the attention of every member of this Conference to the great importance of Christian and

denominational education. We fear that in the great work of educating our children we do not fully meet the obligations which rest upon us. We direct our attention and efforts too much to the faculties which are purely intellectual, ignoring the moral and religious.

We ought to strive to enlighten the conscience, instill elevated sentiments, inspire right feelings and pure desires, implant correct principles, cultivate the cardinal virtues, restrain and regulate the passions and appetites. In a word, our labor ought to be bestowed upon the *heart* as well as, and even more than, upon the *head*. The *heart*, rather than the *head*, is the fountain and source of happiness to the individual man and woman, and also to the society of which they are members. It is the declaration of Divine Wisdom that "A good man out of the good treasure of his *heart* bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his *heart* bringeth forth that which is evil; for of the abundance of the *heart* his mouth speaketh." It is not *head*, but *heart*. And again, "For out of the *heart* proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies."

And these utterances of "Him who knew what was in man" are in full harmony with both the teachings of philosophy and the lessons of experience. For we all know that the heart is the seat of the desires and the source of our motives, and that desire and motive govern and impel the race. But neither desire nor motive springs from the naked intellect. Motives have their origin in man's *moral constitution*. And from this, therefore, as their source, proceed virtue and vice.

Lord Bacon has said that "knowledge is power," that is, *mere* power—a power which may be wielded for good or for evil; and for *evil* as effectually as for *good*. A *bad* man is only made a *worse* one by having his *merely* intellectual faculties highly developed. It follows that what society needs, what the welfare of the race demands, is that the forces of the intellect should be guided and wielded by pure and lofty motives. But these motives can be supplied *only* by man's moral constitution. And does it not, therefore, also follow that our educational systems and enterprises should be directed, in the largest measure, to the development of the attributes of our moral nature? And does it not farther follow that these powers of the moral nature condition and determine the character and the destiny of the man? Indeed, they not only make a man *good*, but no man can be truly *great* without them. They lie at the foundation of both greatness and goodness. Why was it that Cato the censor was a grander man than Cicero the

orator? Did the ambitious Cesar fear the intellectual, the cultivated, the accomplished and graceful rhetorician, as he did the stern, unselfish, uncompromising moralist and patriot?

Considerations such as these urge themselves upon us with commanding emphasis at the present juncture. The cry of our times is, Education, education! But it is for the education of the pure intellect, and not of the moral constitution. And, unfortunately, as we think, the tendency and aim of our systems of public and State education are to the development of the intellectual faculties, to the neglect and to the ignoring of the moral and the higher nature. We want an *intelligent* people, it is true, but it is also and especially true that we want a virtuous people—a people who love, and practice, and exemplify, the cardinal virtues.

Your committee are of the opinion that the institutions of learning under the patronage of our Church are well adapted for the proper education of our nature, moral and intellectual, and they believe they deserve to be recommended to the earnest and universal patronage and support of the friends of education generally, and of Southern Methodism particularly. And to that end they beg to present to this Conference the following resolution for its adoption:

Resolved, That this General Conference recommends the institutions of learning under the control of our Church to the active and zealous support of all our people and friends.

All of which is respectfully submitted by the committee.

TRUSTEN POLK, Chairman.

W. C. Johnson, Chairman of the Committee on Books and Periodicals, presented Report No. 6 of said committee, which was read.

A. G. Haygood, R. A. Young, and J. D. Vincil, moved to amend by adding the following resolution:

Resolved, That the General Conference recommend the Book Agent to fix the price of the *Christian Advocate* at \$2.50 per annum.

A. R. Winfield and W. A. McCarty offered the following substitute for the amendment, which was laid on the table:

Resolved, That the price of the Nashville *Christian Advocate* be referred to the Book Agent and Book Committee, with instructions to publish it as low as it can be done to conserve the interests of the Church.

A. E. Williams moved to lay the amendment on the table. A division was called for, and the motion was lost, by a vote of 89 to 106.

Thomas Branch offered the following amendment, which was read:

Whereas, the Book Agent informs the General Conference that he

can publish the Nashville *Christian Advocate* at \$2; but whereas, the increase of the price of the subscription to \$2.50 is necessary to enable Conference papers and individual enterprises to live; therefore,

Resolved, That the price be raised to \$2.50.

R. A. Young called for the previous question. The call was sustained, and the amendment of Thomas Branch was lost.

The question was then put on the amendment of A. G. Haygood, R. A. Young, and J. D. Vincil, which was lost by a vote of 81 to 96.

The report of the committee was then adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 6.

The resolution from a Quarterly Conference in the bounds of the North Carolina Annual Conference, requesting the delegates from that body to call the attention of the General Conference to the great importance of having the book of Discipline in cheap pamphlet form, and the resolution of Isham L. Burrow, F. M. Paine, and W. T. Harris, in regard to a reduction in the prices of our books, have been considered by the committee with the following results:

Upon inquiry of the Book Agent, the committee learn that the books issued by the Publishing House are sold at as low prices as those sold by other houses, except, of course, the publications of those societies which are sustained by charities solicited by agents traveling all over the land. Prices of books at our Publishing House were fixed by the Book Agent with the catalogues of all the leading houses in the country before him, and after the most careful thought.

While the committee recognize it as the business of the Book Agent to fix the prices of our books, they recognize also that it is the policy of the Publishing House, as established by the General Conference, to supply the demand of the Church for books at the cheapest rates, as far as practicable. This policy, the committee recommend, should be constantly kept in mind, and carried out just to that extent which the Book Agent may deem safe. The committee recommend particularly the cheapening, where it can be done, of the books in the Course of Study for undergraduates in the traveling connection.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. JOHNSON, Chairman.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the Conference resolved to meet this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Wednesday Afternoon, May 20, 1874.

Conference met at the hour appointed, Bishop Paine in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by P. A. Peterson.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Pierce took the chair, and called for reports of standing committees.

J. W. Hanner, Chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 5 of said committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rules. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, NO. 5.

On various papers referred to them, the committee offer the following recommendations:

1. *Non-concurrence* with a resolution of A. West and R. A. Hardaway on the subject of licensing preachers.

2. In respect of the papers signed by L. Pierce and others, concerning the reception of baptized infants into the Church, your committee, believing that the Discipline is sufficiently explicit on the subject, recommend *non-concurrence*.

3. Resolutions of J. Geiger and T. C. Frogge. First one disposed of by previous action. With the second, on voting delegates to the General Conference without the distinction of lay and clerical, and also a resolution of A. A. Coleman and J. Hamilton on the same subject, it is recommended that you do *not* concur.

4. *Concurrence* with a resolution of W. H. Bobbitt and others, proposing to add to Ans. 1, on page 88, *And they shall report in writing the extent and result of their labors* to the fourth *Quarterly Conference*. Paragraph as amended:

“Ans. 1. It shall be the duty of local preachers to aid the preacher in charge of the circuit, station, or mission to which they belong, in supplying the people with the ministry of the word. They shall accordingly be applied to by the preacher in charge as soon as he enters on his work, to state what amount of service they are able and willing to perform; he may then draw up a plan by which their labors shall be regulated; and they shall be authorized to form new congregations, to take a list of the names of all candidates for Church-membership, and, if expedient, receive them into the Church: *provided* that all such congregations, candidates, and members be reported as soon as possible to the preacher in charge, in order that they may be placed immediately under his pastoral care. And they shall report in writing the extent and result of their labors to the fourth *Quarterly Conference*.”

5. *Non-concurrence* with the resolution of C. I. Vandeventer and others, prescribing the duties of Recording Stewards and District Conference Secretaries.

6. With the resolution of A. G. Haygood and others, recommending that "the report on Orphans' Homes," adopted by the General Conference of 1870, with the *proviso* that it be placed in the Discipline, stricken out as an amendment (Journal p. 344), your committee recommend *non-concurrence*.

7. As to the resolution of J. W. Hinton and others, in regard to the division of money between Presiding Elder and preacher, your committee deem no farther legislation necessary.

8. On the resolution of W. S. Black and others, it is recommended that to Ans. 1, pp. 47, 48, Chap. 2, Sec. 3, you add: "But should it become necessary from any unforeseen cause to change the place, after it has been fixed by the Conference, the Presiding Elder shall have power to make the change." Paragraph as amended:

"Ans. 1. There shall be held annually in each Presiding Elder's District a District Conference. The time shall be fixed by the Presiding Elder, and the place by the Conference; but should it become necessary from any unforeseen cause to change the place after it has been fixed by the Conference, the Presiding Elder shall have power to make the change."

9. On the resolution of R. Pollard and others, proposing to give the right of nomination, in the appointment of stewards, to any member of a Quarterly Conference, your committee recommend *non-concurrence*.

10. With the resolution of G. A. Dannelly and J. Mackey, to amend the language of the Discipline, p. 80, Chap. 3, Sec. 8, Ans. 1, so that it shall read, "Ans. 1. To administer baptism and solemnize the rite of matrimony in the absence of an Elder;" also, p. 82, Chap. 3, Sec. 8, Ans. 1, so that it shall read, "Ans. 1. To administer baptism and the Lord's Supper, and to solemnize the rite of matrimony, and perform all parts of divine worship," your committee concur.

11. With the papers on the installation of stewards, from the Hannibal District Conference, and C. W. Miller, your committee recommend *non-concurrence*.

12. On a resolution of M. Evans and others, the committee recommend that your Book Editor be instructed to throw the Discipline into paragraphs, omitting all unnecessary questions, and number them continuously, from Chapter 2 to Chapter 12.

13. With a paper signed by L. Greer and J. Adams, recommending such legislation as would authorize the Bishops to ordain deacons and elders, in certain cases, before they have completed the Course of Study, your committee do not concur.

14. The papers from Morganfield Circuit, Louisville Conference, J. Hamilton and W. Shapard, concerning the use of our houses of worship, and whether we should allow the ministers of those denominations to come into our pulpits who debar us theirs, have been considered, and your committee are of opinion that the powers of our trustees are large enough and sufficiently defined by existing law, and that the other matter should be left to the discretion of our preachers, and therefore recommend no legislation on these subjects.

15. Your committee unanimously recommend the resolution of G. A. Dannelly and J. Mackey, that you add to answer of Ques. 2, Sec. 4, Chap. 2, p. 51, the following: "But the Presiding Elder and preacher in charge shall have authority, when they judge it necessary, to change the place." Paragraph as amended: "Ans. Four times a year, at such places as the Conference may appoint, and at such times as the Presiding Elder may designate. But the Presiding Elder and preacher in charge shall have authority, when they judge it necessary, to change the place."

16. The petition of A. G. Haygood and others, requesting that the action of the General Conference of 1870, on "Orphans' Homes," be inserted in the Discipline, has been considered, and it is thought unadvisable to grant the prayer of the petitioners.

17. The quadrennial address of the Bishops, and other papers, calling for "some strong deliverance as to worldly amusements," telling us that we "cannot make a new law, but can define the old," have been reviewed and discussed, and your committee, with some misgiving, recommend that on page 28, you place a foot-note to the item, "The taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus," as follows—viz.:

"*Dancing, attending dancing parties, theatrical and circus exhibitions, and such like, are among the diversions which cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus."

[The Secretary and Chairman of your committee protest against defining, by legislative enactment, this old law, in any such foot-note.]

18. The "Address" of our Bishops, together with memorials from other wise and honored men, and from Annual Conferences, on the subject of class-meeting, have been patiently considered; and while we are profoundly impressed with the value of this peculiarly Method-

istic institution, and would have the General Conference commend it again to the hearts of our people, yet we do not recommend any farther legislation on the subject.

19. A valuable paper, signed by our venerable father in Israel, Dr. Lovick Pierce, and others, proposing to make attendance on Church Conferences a condition of continued Church-membership, has been most respectfully considered, and the conclusion reached, that on this subject, at present, no farther legislation is required.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. A. BOURLAND,

Secretary.

J. W. HANNER,

Chairman.

W. G. E. Cunnyngnam, Chairman of the Committee on Missions, presented Report No. 6 of said committee, which was read, and, on motion of W. W. Bennett, was made the order of the day for to-morrow at 10:30 A.M., the vote being 124 to 42. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 6.

Your committee would respectfully state that they have carefully reconsidered their report, No. 1, which was recommitted to them. They have compared it, item by item, with the minority report signed by Dr. A. R. Winfield, and find it impossible to harmonize or combine the two. They therefore beg leave to return Report No. 1 with a single verbal change in Article 16, and the addition of an article requiring preachers in charge of circuits and stations to institute monthly missionary prayer-meetings in their several congregations, as their final action on the subject.

The committee, in their efforts to revise the Constitution, have given earnest heed to the voice of the Church as it has reached them through the memorials, petitions, and especially that part of the Bishops' Address devoted to the subject of missions, referred to us, and we have endeavored to obey it. Prominent in all the suggestions offered was a wish that our Foreign Missionary work should be separated from the home work, and "made to rely upon its own merits, motives, and obligations." The Bishops, in their address, say: "Individualize the mission work. Separate it from all competition. Set it forth in the grandeur of its claims upon faith, hope, and philanthropy, an imperious duty specified by divine command, encouraged by divine promise, already vindicated by providence and grace, and destined to culminate sooner or later by gradual advancement or sudden triumph in millennial glory. Any plan recognizing the great underlying principles of this interest, and starting from the right standpoint,

which will commend itself to the judgment of the Church as feasible in its practical working, and which can be economically administered, will command her liberality." "The current of benevolence in this behalf must not be wasted by side rills for local irrigation, but pour in steady volume into one reservoir for a specific use." Again they say: "If the General Conference could provide for the home field from some other fund it might be well."

Guided by these wise suggestions, and their own convictions, a majority of the committee framed the plan of missionary operations contained in their Report No. 1, and a subsequent careful review under your instruction seemed but to confirm their convictions. They cannot therefore change that report. To say that there was absolute unanimity on all points among the members of the majority would not be true; but the paper now returned, is the best expression of their views they can present.

Thoughtful men among us deplore the want of missionary zeal and enterprise in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. We do not occupy the position among the missionary agencies of the Christian world which our numbers, wealth, and intelligence demand. In the hope that our present deliberations will result in giving new life to this department of our work, this report is respectfully submitted.

W. G. E. CUNNINGHAM, Chairman.

W. C. Johnson, Chairman of the Committee on Books and Periodicals, presented Report No. 7 of said committee, which was read and adopted. Also Report No. 8 of said committee, which was read and adopted. They are as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 7.

The committee have carefully examined advance sheets of a work referred to them, entitled "A Manual of Architecture: For Churches, Parsonages, and School-houses," by the Rev. W. M. Patterson, of the Memphis Conference. It contains designs, elevations, plans, specifications, form of contract, rules for estimating cost of building, with suggestions on acoustics, ventilation, heating, lighting, painting, and other pertinent subjects; including valuable original contributions from the pens of Bishops Wightman and Marvin. The book, which is a quarto, is now passing through the press of our Publishing House at Nashville. The author is well known and favorably as a church-builder; he has furnished designs for a number of the best edifices in the Connection; and he deservedly enjoys the reputation of possessing

superior qualifications for the work undertaken by him. The committee, after examination of advance sheets of this work, embracing designs for churches, parsonages, and school-houses, take pleasure in expressing their decided approval of it, and their belief that it will meet a want long felt among us. It is not expected that the use of this Manual will supersede the services of a professional architect in the erection of large and costly structures. But, while in instances of this kind its directions and suggestions will be valuable, its usefulness will appear chiefly as a guide to building committees where it is thought to be either not desirable or not practicable to employ a professional architect. In the many cases of this kind, this Manual, it is believed, will contribute largely to the improvement of our church architecture, particularly in towns and villages and throughout the country.

The following resolution is offered for adoption, viz.:

Resolved, That Patterson's "Manual of Architecture" is recommended as a work which meets a felt want in our Church.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. JOHNSON, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 8.

1. The committee, after considering the resolution instructing them to inquire into the expediency of changing the form of the *Christian Advocate* and printing it on 32 pages, report that this change is not expedient.

2. The resolution of W. G. E. Cunyningham, C. Long, and F. W. Earnest, requesting the committee to inquire into the propriety of directing the Book Agent to publish a magazine for ladies, has been taken into consideration, and the committee report that the undertaking is not advisable at this time.

3. The resolution of H. A. Bourland and J. H. Pritchett, proposing to instruct the Book Agent to have the Apostles' Creed printed in our Sunday-school song-books, etc., so that it may be readily learned by the children and be convenient for use in closing Sunday-schools, has received the attention of the committee, and they report in favor of leaving the proposition to the discretion of the Book Agent with the Book Editor.

4. The memorial of Oscar M. Addison in regard to the necessity of publishing "an approved Tune Book suitably arranged for the use of our Hymns," needs no farther attention, since the Book Agent has just published a New Hymn and Tune Book which, it is believed, will fully supply the lack referred to by the memorialists.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. JOHNSON, Chairman.

R. Hiner, Chairman of the Committee on the Bible Cause, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BIBLE CAUSE, NO. 1.

In reference to the memorial of H. J. Adams, W. J. Scott, J. M. Beal, and T. M. Meriwether, asking that it shall be made the duty of preachers in charge to see that a Bible-reading class be formed in each congregation for the purpose of reading daily and consecutively the Holy Scriptures, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That while we heartily approve of the daily and consecutive reading of the Holy Scriptures, and of earnest efforts by our pastors to induce all our people to use this means of growth in grace and in the knowledge of Christ, nevertheless we do not see the propriety of the proposed addition to the Discipline, and we recommend that the General Conference do not grant the request of the memorialists.

R. HINER, Chairman.

Also Report No. 2 of said committee, which was read and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BIBLE CAUSE, NO. 2.

The phraseology of the resolution to appoint a committee on the subject of this report is so comprehensive, and so little of a definite character having been referred to said committee, they could only infer from the ordinary signification of the language employed the work you expected your committee to perform.

Following the leading suggestions of the resolution, your committee have considered the more important features of the manufacture and distribution of the sacred Scriptures.

Accepting Protestantism as our point of observation, the Bible does not only occupy an exalted position in the long and ever-extending catalogue of useful books, but also as the only attested and perfected system of truth revealed from God to man; and furthermore, as necessarily underlying the formation of individual character, and the success of the Church in accomplishing the work assigned her in the redemption of our fallen and guilty race.

It is, therefore, no surprising thing that a grave body of Christian men, acting under the authority of Jesus Christ, the recognized Head of the Church, and commissioned to "go into all the world and teach the nations all things commanded by him," should, in solemn counsel assembled, give prominence to the inquiry as to how and when they

may most conveniently obtain, and most successfully distribute among all the people, the *word of life*. Already it has been suggested that a personal knowledge of the Scriptures is indispensable to strong individual character; indeed, it is the "entrance of God's word that giveth light," for it is "God that teacheth man knowledge, and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth him understanding." These agencies, active and efficient, the word and Spirit of God, go before and prepare and lead fallen and guilty sinners to seek for pardon and regeneration. But the saved can only attain to strong manhood in Christianity by eating the strong meat and drinking the sincere milk of the word. Furthermore, each Christian in life's great battle must arm himself with the "sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God," if he would conquer. Its power was tested in that decisive conflict between the *man* Christ Jesus and the prince of the power of the air. Thrice the Captain of our salvation defeated his adversary by an appeal to the word of truth—"It is written." It is a philosophical truth that faith not only "cometh by hearing," but rests on conviction, and not on authority. Your committee have information, gathered from reports of missionaries who have labored in foreign fields, that the progress of the gospel by oral preaching alone has been unsteady and sluggish when compared with the firmness and strength of its success, accompanied by the power of the printed and studied text. Missionaries and government commissioners among our own aboriginal tribes—the Indian population of our frontiers—have abundantly testified to the wonderfully increased efficiency of the gospel since they have been able to circulate among them translations of the Scriptures in their various dialects.

When Manuel Agnas, a converted Roman priest, and a holy pioneer of the faith in Mexico, was asked in his dying hour what legacy of utterance he would bequeath to his countrymen, he replied: "Put it upon my hearse, let it follow me to the grave—tell them it is an open Bible." These things indicate clearly the will of God, the wants of the people, the duty and responsibility of the Church in the premises.

It is not to be overlooked, however, in this connection, that the success of divine truth in winning the nations to Christ, and through him to salvation, depends largely upon the competency and fidelity of the ministry provided for in it. The ministry is essential to the success of the gospel, inasmuch as it fills the offices ordained in it. This gospel, completed, so far as man is concerned, in its ministry, is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. The awful charge from the mouth of God to each minister he sends forth is, "As

ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of God is at hand." "Preach the word." "Take heed unto thyself and unto the doctrine; continue in them; for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee." Christ, "the way, the truth, and the life;" "Jesus, the only name under heaven given whereby we can be saved;" "Christ, in you the hope of glory"—Christ, the inspiration of the preacher, and the present and personal Saviour of the hearer, is the message God has employed the ministry to bear to the sons of men. "God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ," must be the unifying purpose of the ministry through all time, and the inspiration of its hope of the final conquest of the world. For He who knew the end from the beginning, and worketh all things after the counsel of his own will, determined to cast out the prince of this world, and enthrone himself in the great heart of redeemed humanity, by the seemingly slow but ever penetrating and steadily leavening power of his own eternal truth, read and studied by the people, and expounded by the ministry. A divinely approved ministry takes the Bible for its text-book, Christ Jesus for its theme, the world for its parish, and the salvation of the race as the object of its labors.

While it is painful, on the one hand, to contemplate the fact that eight hundred million human beings—nearly three-fourths of the world's population—remain to be supplied with the word of life, it is gratifying, on the other, to have the pleasing information* that the formidable difficulties which have heretofore prevented the introduction and circulation of the Scriptures among millions of our race are now, to a very great extent, if not entirely, removed. Italy, Spain, Mexico, and Japan, have been providentially opened for the entrance and dissemination of the Bible; and the people of God have not been slow to perceive these indications of duty, nor to meet their responsibilities in the premises. Never before has Protestantism had the ear of the world, and access to the population of the globe. "Go into my vineyard and work," has never been emphasized since the days of the apostles as at the present time. Not only are foreign fields inviting the toil of the Church, but through the ocean gates of our imperial domain the sons of earth are pressing to our doors from the far-off Orient—India, China, Japan, and the islands of the sea; from Mexico, and the once mighty civilizations of Europe, they come to our Jerusalem, saying, "We would see Jesus."

The demands of the present can only be met by the people of God by prompt, energetic, and, as far as possible, united effort, in evangelizing the world; and particularly in furnishing the vast multitudes

of the destitute, to whom we now have access, in the providence of God, with the word of life.

Your committee are of opinion that while the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which you represent, could have done much in the past, and has it in her power to accomplish greater things in the future by collecting and managing, in her own way, the money contributed by her people for the distribution of the Bible, both within the limits of her jurisdiction and in regions beyond; nevertheless, there are considerations which justify her in coöperating with other Christian and benevolent organizations in manufacturing and disseminating the word of God. In the list of these organizations your committee take pleasure in calling your attention particularly to the *American Bible Society*. Instituted in 1816, it now approximates perfection in its organization and practical operations, both in manufacturing and disseminating the Holy Scriptures. With its officers and Board of Managers in the city of New York, it has its superintendents in all the States and Territories, and auxiliary societies and agents in every city, and almost every county, in this far extended country of ours; and has pushed its lines of systematic operations into many of the open and inviting fields beyond. Already, by the worthiness of its object, perfection of its organization, and magnitude of its work, it has secured the hearty indorsement and cordial coöperation of all denominations of Christians in America, and innumerable testimonials of the approval of Heaven.

For definite and detailed information, however, with regard to the extent and grandeur of its work, we invite your attention to the Annual Reports of said Society, in the hope that a few general statements on this point in our report may be satisfactory. The American Bible Society is now printing the Scriptures in *sixty-three different languages*. In a little more than half a century it has sent forth about *thirty million copies* of the word of the Most High. It has thrice instituted and helped forward to completion a general exploration of the United States. In 1829 it is said that every accessible family in the United States was visited. During a period of ten years, including 1856, 500,000 destitute families were supplied with the word of life. The third exploration of the United States began in 1866, since which time 300,000 destitute families, and 254,000 destitute individuals, are reported to have been supplied with the Bible through the agency of auxiliary societies, besides a very large number supplied through Churches and benevolent societies not auxiliary.

It is a gratifying fact to your committee that the conception and

execution of the plan for putting portions of the Scriptures, conveniently for travelers, in the coaches of our railroad trains, is justly claimed by a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, E. H. Pearce, who was then, as he is now, in the service of the American Bible Society in Kentucky. At first his proposition to give the traveler the companionship of the word of God on his rapid and, too often, perilous journey, was not received with favor; but a faithful trial of it for a few years has demonstrated the wisdom and beneficial results of it, and secured the applause of the world and the indorsement of the American Bible Society. Surely, this is the Apocalyptic "angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying, with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him, for the hour of his judgment is come; and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."

Your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions by the General Conference:

Resolved, 1. That we cordially indorse the American Bible Society.

Resolved, 2. The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, will heartily coöperate with said society in Bible distribution.

Resolved, 3. That we urge all our congregations to give the Bible cause a more liberal support in the future than they have done in the past.

Resolved, 4. That it affords us pleasure to gratefully acknowledge the princely benefactions of the American Bible Society to the various destitute localities of Southern Methodism.

Respectfully submitted.

R. HINER, Chairman.

Pending action on this report, the Rev. Alexander McLean, D.D., one of the Secretaries of the American Bible Society, made an excellent address to the Conference concerning the plans and operations of that noble institution.

P. A. Peterson, Chairman of the Special Committee on Annual Conference Statistics, presented the report of said committee, which was read and laid on the table for one day. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FORMS FOR STATISTICS OF ANNUAL
CONFERENCES.

The committee appointed to prepare Forms for Statistics of Annual Conferences present as their report the accompanying form for sta-

tistical reports from the several pastoral charges, to be published in the General Minutes, embracing the following items, to wit:

Number of local preachers.

Number of white (or Indian) members.

Number of colored members.

Number of deaths.

Number of additions by baptism; on profession of faith.

Number of infants baptized.

Number of Sunday-schools.

Number of officers and teachers.

Number of scholars.

Number of volumes in library.

Number of Church edifices.

Value of Church edifices.

Number of parsonages.

Value of parsonages.

Value of other Church property.

Money expended for salaries of ministers.

Money expended for Sunday-schools.

Money expended for building and repairing churches and parsonages.

Amount raised in the Sunday-schools for missions.

Amount raised in the Churches for missions.

Amount raised for Conference claimants.

Amount raised for the Bishops.

P. A. PETERSON,

A. G. HAYGOOD,

M. EVANS.

The report of the Committee on the Appeal Case of L. D. Huston was then presented and read, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE APPEAL OF L. D. HUSTON.

The Committee on the Appeal of Lorenzo D. Huston, expelled by the Baltimore Conference upon the charge of immorality, report to the General Conference:

That the appeal of L. D. Huston, expelled by the Baltimore Conference upon the charge of immorality, has been heard, and the action of that Conference has not been reversed.

J. C. KEENER, President.

JOHN D. VINCIL, Secretary.

J. E. Evans, Chairman of the Committee on the Organization of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, presented the report of said committee, which was read and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ORGANIZATION OF THE COLORED
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN AMERICA.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Bishops on the organization of the colored people of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, into a distinct ecclesiastical Connection, have had the same under consideration, and respectfully submit the following resolutions, for the adoption of the Conference:

Resolved, That the report of the Bishops, setting forth the organization of the colored people of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in conformity with the action of the General Conferences of 1866 and 1870, into a distinct ecclesiastical Connection, under the name and style of "The Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America," meets the entire approval of this Conference.

Resolved, That it is with great pleasure, and devout gratitude to the Great Head of the Church, that we receive the intelligence the report conveys of the peace, harmony, prosperity, and encouraging prospects for the future, of this new organization; thus fully justifying the wisdom of the policy of the Church touching our colored members.

Resolved, That in providing a distinct organization for the colored members of the Church, and committing to their hands the ecclesiastical oversight and spiritual interests of the colored people among us, we have given them additional proof of parental love and goodwill; and we do hereby commend the "Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America" to the confidence and Christian affection of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and to all Christians of every name.

Resolved, That the efforts making to establish an institution of learning for the education of their ministry is worthy of all praise, and we commend this cause to the friends of the colored people everywhere. They need material aid; let it be given.

Resolved, That the report of the Bishops be recorded in the Journal of this Conference as an important part of the history of this question.

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

A. H. Redford, Agent, presented his report on the Support of the Bishops, which was read and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF A. H. REDFORD, AGENT, ON THE SUPPORT OF THE BISHOPS.

A. H. Redford, Agent, in account with the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

DR.

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| May 31, 1871, To cash received from Annual Conferences..... | \$ 24,278 27 |
| May 31, 1872, To cash received from Annual Conferences..... | 27,736 20 |
| May 31, 1873, To cash received from Annual Conferences..... | 26,911 10 |
| May 31, 1874, To cash received from Annual Conferences..... | 26,586 59 |
| Total..... | <u>\$105,512 16</u> |

CR.

May 31, 1871.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| By cash paid Bishop Andrew..... | \$ 1,900 16 |
| By cash paid Bishop Paine..... | 2,533 37 |
| By cash paid Bishop Pierce | 2,533 37 |
| By cash paid Bishop Kavanaugh | 2,533 37 |
| By cash paid Bishop Early..... | 2,111 15 |
| By cash paid Bishop Wightman..... | 2,533 37 |
| By cash paid Bishop Marvin | 2,533 37 |
| By cash paid Bishop Doggett..... | 2,533 37 |
| By cash paid Bishop McTyeire..... | 2,533 37 |
| By cash paid Bishop Keener..... | 2,533 37 |
| Total..... | <u>\$24,278 27</u> |

The amount necessary to pay the salary
for the year ending May 31, 1871,was..... \$29,000 00
Amount received..... 24,278 27Balance due Bishops..... \$4,721 73

May 31, 1872.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| By cash paid Bishop Paine..... | \$ 3,036 81 |
| By cash paid Bishop Pierce | 3,036 81 |
| Amount carried forward..... | <u>\$6,073 62</u> |

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$ 6,073 62 |
| By cash paid Bishop Kavanaugh..... | 3,036 81 |
| By cash paid Bishop Early..... | 2,530 67 |
| By cash paid Bishop Wightman..... | 3,036 81 |
| By cash paid Bishop Marvin..... | 3,036 81 |
| By cash paid Bishop Doggett..... | 3,036 81 |
| By cash paid Bishop McTyeire..... | 3,036 81 |
| By cash paid Bishop Keener..... | 3,036 81 |
| By cash paid Mrs. Andrew..... | 911 05 |
| Total..... | <u>\$27,736 20</u> |

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| The amount necessary to pay the salary for the year ending May 31, 1872, is | \$27,400 00 |
| Amount received..... | <u>27,736 20</u> |
| Surplus | <u><u>\$336 20</u></u> |

Left in the hands of the Treasurer, which was paid as above stated.

May 31, 1873.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| By cash paid Bishop Paine..... | \$ 3,046 53 |
| By cash paid Bishop Pierce | 3,046 53 |
| By cash paid Bishop Early..... | 2,538 86 |
| By cash paid Bishop Kavanaugh | 3,046 53 |
| By cash paid Bishop Wightman | 3,046 53 |
| By cash paid Bishop Marvin..... | 3,046 53 |
| By cash paid Bishop Doggett..... | 3,046 53 |
| By cash paid Bishop McTyeire..... | 3,046 53 |
| By cash paid Bishop Keener | 3,046 53 |
| Total..... | <u>\$26,911 10</u> |

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| The amount necessary to pay the salaries of Bishops for the year end- ing May 31, 1873..... | \$26,500 00 |
| Amount received..... | <u>26,911 10</u> |
| Surplus in hands of Treasurer..... | <u><u>\$411 10</u></u> |

Which was paid to the Bishops as reported.

May 31, 1874.

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| By cash paid Bishop Paine..... | \$ 3,181 21 |
| By cash paid Bishop Pierce..... | 3,181 21 |
| By cash paid Bishop Early..... | 1,136 91 |
| By cash paid Bishop Kavanaugh..... | 3,181 21 |
| By cash paid Bishop Wightman..... | 3,181 21 |
| By cash paid Bishop Marvin | 3,181 21 |
| By cash paid Bishop Doggett..... | 3,181 21 |
| By cash paid Bishop McTyeire | 3,181 21 |
| By cash paid Bishop Keener | 3,181 21 |

| | |
|------------|--------------------|
| Total..... | <u>\$26,586 59</u> |
|------------|--------------------|

| | |
|--|-------------|
| The amount necessary to meet the salaries of Bishops for the year ending May 31, 1874..... | \$25,069 41 |
|--|-------------|

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Amount received..... | <u>26,586 59</u> |
|----------------------|------------------|

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Leaving surplus as reported above to meet arrearages..... | <u><u>\$1,517 18</u></u> |
|---|--------------------------|

It will be observed that the full amount necessary to pay the salaries allowed the Bishops for the quadrennial term just closing is.....

| | |
|--|--------------|
| | \$107,969 41 |
|--|--------------|

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Amount collected. | <u>105,512 16</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------|

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Leaving balance unpaid of..... | \$2,457 25 |
|--------------------------------|------------|

Respectfully submitted.

A. H. REDFORD, Agent.

J. Hamilton offered a resolution in reference to the protection of missionaries in Mexico, which was read, and after some discussion it was referred to a committee consisting of J. Hamilton, J. B. McFerrin, and A. W. Wilson.

J. L. Davis, lay delegate from the Missouri Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence.

J. M. Sharpe was substituted for A. L. P. Green, on the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

The report of the Special Committee on Church Trials was then taken up.

The section on the Trial of a Bishop was discussed by H. F. Johnson—the time was extended to allow him to close his remarks—after which Conference adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Thursday Morning, May 21, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Pierce in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by H. A. C. Walker.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Kavanaugh took the chair.

R. K. Hargrove, reserve clerical delegate from the Tennessee Conference, appeared and took his seat, in place of A. L. P. Green, who had gone home on account of sickness.

The rule was suspended to allow the following resolution to be offered—a motion of T. Polk to amend it by substituting ten minutes for five, was laid on the table:

Resolved, During the remainder of this session of the General Conference, no person shall speak more than twice on the same question; nor more than five minutes at one time, without leave of the Conference; nor shall any person speak more than once until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

GEORGE M. NOLAN,

W. F. COOK.

On motion of A. E. Goodwyn, the resolution was laid on the table.

T. Polk, Chairman of the Committee on Education, presented Report No. 3 of said committee, which was read and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, NO. 3.

To the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South:

RESPECTED AND BELOVED BRETHREN:—Your Committee on Education beg leave to report, that under the resolution of the last General Conference, making it the duty of the Presidents and Principals of the institutions of learning, under the care of our Conferences, to send to this General Conference statistical reports according to the following form: “1. Name of institution. 2. Grade. 3. Location. 4. When founded. 5. When and by whom chartered. 6. Name, title, and post-office address of President or Principal. 7. Number and names of Instructors. 8. Whole number of students, male and female. 9. Value of grounds, buildings, and furniture. 10. Number of volumes in Library. 11. Endowment. 12. The time of Commencement—or Anniversary Exercises”—they have received the statistics as set forth in the tabulated statement hereto annexed, making a part of this report. They regret to say, however, that these statistics are in many of the cases defective, and do not furnish all the information

sought for by the resolution referred to. But as they have been furnished your committee, they have embodied them in the following tabular statement. [See tabular statement.]

L. M. Lee, Chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. 6 of said committee, on the salaries of the Bishops, which was read and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 6.

The salaries of the Bishops are fixed at \$3,000 each, and traveling expenses. To pay these claims the following assessments have been made:

| | |
|--|--------|
| Baltimore Conference | \$1350 |
| Virginia Conference | 1500 |
| Western Virginia Conference..... | 250 |
| North Carolina Conference..... | 1400 |
| South Carolina Conference..... | 700 |
| North Georgia Conference..... | 1350 |
| South Georgia Conference | 1000 |
| Florida Conference | 200 |
| Alabama Conference | 1150 |
| North Alabama Conference | 900 |
| Louisiana Conference | 800 |
| Mississippi Conference | 850 |
| North Mississippi Conference..... | 850 |
| Memphis Conference. | 1200 |
| Tennessee Conference..... | 1650 |
| Holston Conference..... | 700 |
| Kentucky Conference | 1000 |
| Louisville Conference | 1200 |
| St. Louis Conference..... | 550 |
| South-western Missouri Conference..... | 550 |
| Missouri Conference | 1050 |
| Western Conference..... | 100 |
| Little Rock Conference..... | 600 |
| Arkansas Conference.... | 300 |
| White River Conference..... | 300 |
| Indian Mission Conference..... | 25 |
| Texas Conference..... | 400 |
| Trinity Conference | 450 |
| East Texas Conference | 350 |
| North-west Texas Conference..... | 400 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| West Texas Conference..... | 250 |
| Columbia Conference..... | 100 |
| Pacific Conference..... | 100 |
| Los Angeles Conference..... | 25 |
| Illinois Conference..... | 250 |
| German Conference..... | 100 |
| Denver Conference..... | 50 |

\$24,000

L. M. LEE, Chairman.

On motion, the report on Church Trials was taken up.

A. R. Winfield moved, as a substitute for the section of the report on the trial of a Bishop, the section as it now stands in the Discipline.

P. A. Peterson moved indefinite postponement of the whole subject.

The Chair decided that this question was not debatable.

J. W. Hinton appealed from the decision of the Chair. The decision was not sustained.

Pending discussion, the order of the day arrived.

The Chair brought forward Bishop Bowman, of the M. E. Church, who was introduced to the Conference, and took his seat on the platform.

The first article of the proposed Constitution in the report of the majority of the Committee on Missions was read. (Page 445.)

A. R. Winfield moved as a substitute the first article in the report of the minority. (Page 464.)

On motion of H. A. C. Walker, this motion was laid on the table.

Article 1 of the proposed Constitution in the report of the majority was adopted.

Article 2 was read.

J. E. Edwards moved to amend the article by providing for two Secretaries. This motion was laid on the table, and the article was adopted.

Articles 4 and 5 were read and adopted.

Article 6 was read.

J. E. Edwards moved so to amend as to strike out the following words:

“And from District Conferences and from collections in Sunday-schools and Church Missionary Societies,” and to insert in lieu thereof, “And from such other plans as may be adopted by the Church and congregation to raise money for this object.”

As amended it reads thus:

"The revenue of the Board shall be derived from general collections in every congregation, and from such other plans as may be adopted by the Church and congregation to raise money for this object; and from special collections by the Secretary and the Bishops, and from donations and legacies."

The amendment was adopted, and the article was adopted.

Article 7 was read.

A. R. Winfield moved to amend by striking out the word "minister." The motion was lost.

On motion of J. Hamilton, the article was amended by inserting "his" before "necessary." The article thus amended was adopted.

Articles 8, 9, 10, 11, were read and adopted. The blank in Article 11 was, on motion of R. J. Morgan, filled by the words, "Nashville, Tennessee," and the article was adopted.

Article 12 was read and adopted.

Bishop Simpson, of the M. E. Church, was then brought forward by the Committee on Appointments, and introduced by the Chair to the Conference. He took his seat on the platform.

Article 13 was read.

J. E. Edwards moved so to amend as to insert after the words, "at each session of the Conference," the following, "the proceeds of which shall be equally divided between the General Board and the Annual Conference Mission Board."

It would then read as follows:

"The Conference Board shall disseminate missionary intelligence among the people, hold an anniversary meeting at each session of the Conference, the proceeds of which shall be equally divided between the General Board and the Annual Conference Mission Board; shall publish a report of its operations every year in the Minutes of the Conference, and annually estimate the amount that may be necessary for the support of its own missions, and apportion the same to the Presiding Elders' Districts for collection."

A motion of W. W. Bennett to amend by striking out all after "its own missions," was lost.

The article, as amended, was adopted.

Article 14 was read and adopted.

Article 15 was read. A motion of C. Long to amend by substituting "either Board" for "General Board," was lost. The article was adopted.

Article 16 was read.

J. H. McLean and A. E. Goodwyn offered the following substitute:

"Each Annual Conference shall designate the time and manner in which collections for missions shall be taken up within its bounds. If the Annual Conference shall determine to raise the assessment for Foreign and Domestic Missions by one collection, the whole amount collected shall be divided *pro rata* between the Treasurer of the General and the Treasurer of the Annual Conference Boards, according to the assessments made by the General and the Annual Conference Boards." The substitute was not adopted.

The following amendment was accepted, and the article, thus amended, was adopted:

"Except at the anniversary meeting held during the session of an Annual Conference."

Article 17 was read and adopted.

Article 18 was read, and, on motion of J. E. Edwards, was amended by striking out *all* after the words "circuit and station," and inserting the following, "And see to it that efficient and well-defined modes and plans be adopted for raising missionary funds, both for the General Board, and also for the Conference Mission Board."

Thus amended it reads:

"It shall be the duty of the Presiding Elder to bring the subject of missions prominently before the Quarterly Conferences of each circuit and station, and see to it that efficient and well-defined modes and plans be adopted for raising missionary funds, both for the General Board, and also for the Conference Mission Board."

A motion of H. J. Adams to lay the amendment on the table was lost, and the article as amended was adopted.

Article 19 was read, as follows:

"It shall be the duty of the preacher in charge of a circuit or station to institute monthly missionary prayer-meetings."

This article was not adopted.

R. A. Young moved a reconsideration of the vote by which Article 2 was adopted, providing for only one Secretary. It was not reconsidered, the vote being 74 to 81.

A motion of L. M. Lee, to reconsider Article 7, in order to restrict the duties of the Secretary to office work, was made, but the time of adjournment having come, on motion of J. E. Evans the Conference ordered a session this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

R. S. Bickel, lay delegate from Western Virginia Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by Bishop Simpson.

Thursday Afternoon, May 21, 1874.

Conference met at the hour appointed, Bishop Kavanaugh in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by W. E. M. Linfield.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Wightman took the chair.

R. C. Clark and H. W. Foote, lay delegates from North Mississippi Conference; and G. M. Nolan, lay delegate from North Georgia Conference, who was sick, asked and obtained leave of absence.

On motion of A. E. Williams and F. A. Connor, Rule 12 was suspended, and it was resolved that no member shall speak for more than five minutes at one time, without leave of the Conference, except the chairmen of committees, who shall be allowed fifteen minutes.

A motion of A. E. Goodwyn, to lay it on the table, was lost.

The report of the Committee on the Protection of Missionaries in Mexico, was presented by J. B. McFerrin, chairman—it was read and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE IN REFERENCE TO THE PROTECTION OF
MISSIONARIES IN MEXICO.

Whereas this General Conference has heard with profound sorrow of the murder of the Rev. John Stephens, a missionary of the American Board in Mexico, who fell a martyr at his post, with his Bible in his hand; and also of the murder at the same time of Don Jesus Islas, a convert to Protestantism; and whereas we have a deep interest in the work and welfare of all laborers in the Master's vineyard in foreign lands; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we deplore this sad event, and protest in the most emphatic manner against this appalling evidence of religious intolerance.

Resolved, 2. That we deeply sympathize with the American Board, and all concerned, in this cruel and unprovoked assault upon their rights and religious privileges, and the martyrdom of their devoted missionary.

Resolved, 3. That we respectfully call the attention of the authorities of the United States of America, and the authorities of Mexico, to this disregard of the rights and privileges of American citizens.

Resolved, 4. That we recommend to the Book Editor and Agent to publish, in tract form, the graphic account of the martyrdom of the Rev. John Stephens and his fellow-victim, as written by Felipe de J.

Pedrosa, of the city of Quadalahara, and published in the secular papers of Mexico, and republished in the columns of the *Daily Christian Advocate*.

J. HAMILTON,
J. B. MCFERRIN,
A. W. WILSON.

The motion of L. M. Lee, to reconsider Article 7 of the proposed Missionary Constitution, in order to restrict the duties of the Secretary to office-work—on which the Conference adjourned—was taken up; and, on motion of N. H. D. Wilson, was laid on the table.

On motion of J. E. Evans, Report No. 6 of the Committee on Missions, embracing the Constitution, was adopted. The report, as amended, is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, NO. 6.

Support of Missions.

The missionary operations of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, shall hereafter be conducted under the following provisions and regulations:

ARTICLE I. There shall be a Board of Missions, which shall have charge of the Foreign Missions, and of all others not provided for by the Annual Conferences.

ART. II. Said Board shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and seventeen Managers, to be elected quadrennially by the General Conference, and to continue in office until their successors are appointed. The Bishops shall be *ex officio* members of the Board.

ART. III. The Board shall have authority to regulate its own proceedings; to appropriate money to defray incidental expenses; to provide for the support of superannuated missionaries, and widows and orphans of missionaries who may not be provided for by any Annual Conference; to print books for the Indian, German, and Foreign Missions; to build houses for worship, for schools, and for missionaries; and to defray the necessary expenses of the work under its care. It shall also publish annually a statement of its transactions, naming the missions supported by it, and the amount appropriated and paid to each, and lay before the General Conference a report of its operations.

ART. IV. The Board shall meet annually to determine what fields shall be occupied as missions, the number of persons to be employed in each, and to estimate the amount that may be necessary for the

support of the missions under its charge, and to divide the same among the several Annual Conferences—having reference in said division to the extent and importance of the domestic work in each Conference, and to the ability and disposition of the people to give.

ART. V. The Board shall employ only effective men for its work, and shall require each one to make a quarterly report to the Secretary of his operations, and of the state and prospects of the work in his charge.

ART. VI. The revenue of the Board shall be derived from annual collections in every congregation; and from such other plans as may be adopted by the Church and congregation to raise money for this object; and from special collections by the Secretary and the Bishops; and from donations and legacies.

ART. VII. The Secretary shall be a minister of the gospel, and may be a member of any Annual Conference, but shall reside where the Board is located. It shall be his duty to keep a permanent record of the proceedings of the Board, and to publish an abstract of them in the Church-papers; to conduct its correspondence; to attend to all its legal business; to prepare its annual report, and to publish monthly (either in a missionary paper or in the Church-papers, as the Board shall direct) statements of the condition, needs, and prospects of the various missions. The salary of the Secretary shall be fixed by the Board, and all his necessary traveling expenses shall be allowed.

ART. VIII. The Treasurer shall hold the funds of the Board in safe deposit, which deposit shall be made by him as Treasurer, subject to his drafts as such, and to those of his successors in office. He shall also furnish an annual report, to be published with that of the Secretary.

ART. IX. The Board shall fill all vacancies that may occur.

ART. X. Nine members shall constitute a quorum at an annual meeting of the Board, and seven at a called meeting.

ART. XI. This Board shall be located in the city of Nashville, Tennessee.

ART. XII. Each Annual Conference shall organize a Board of Missions, which shall appoint its own officers and regulate its own affairs, and have absolute control of the missions it may establish, with the consent of the President of the Conference, within its own bounds, and of the funds raised for their support.

ART. XIII. The Conference Board shall disseminate missionary intelligence among the people; hold an anniversary meeting at each session of the Conference, the proceeds of which shall be equally

divided between the General Board and the Annual Conference Mission Board; shall publish a full report of its operations every year in the Minutes of the Conference; and annually estimate the amount that may be necessary for the support of its own missions, and apportion the same to the Presiding Elders' Districts for collection.

ART. XIV. The apportionment to a Conference for the general work shall be divided by the Conference Board among the Districts, and the preachers in charge shall take up a collection in every congregation to meet the same.

ART. XV. Any person, or Sunday-school, or Church, or Conference, may assume in whole, or in part, the support of a mission or a mission-school established by the General Board, and send their contributions directly to such mission or school, of which the General Treasurer shall be immediately notified: *provided* that the Conference in whose territory such moneys may be given shall have credit for the same in settling the apportionment of the General Board.

ART. XVI. The collections for the Conference and General Boards shall not be taken up together, except at the anniversary meeting held during the session of an Annual Conference.

ART. XVII. The Treasurer of the Conference Board shall transmit to the Treasurer of the General Board all moneys he may receive for general purposes.

ART. XVIII. It shall be the duty of the Presiding Elder to bring the subject of missions prominently before the Quarterly Conferences of each circuit and station, and see to it that efficient and well-defined modes and plans be adopted for raising missionary funds, both for the General Board and also for the Conference Mission Board.

R. J. Morgan moved that a Secretary and Board of Missions be elected this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

H. H. Montgomery moved, as a substitute, that it may be the order of the day for to-morrow at 10 o'clock A.M. The substitute was lost. The motion prevailed.

The report of the Committee on Church Trials was taken up.

After some discussion on points of order, the vote was put on the motion to indefinitely postpone; and the whole subject was indefinitely postponed.

The report on Temperance, with the two minority reports, was taken up and read.

J. E. Edwards moved the adoption of the second minority report.

A motion of John Pipes, to lay the motion of J. E. Edwards on the table, was lost.

On motion of F. M. Kennedy, the order of the day was suspended till this subject be disposed of.

J. E. Edwards moved, as a substitute for all proposed on the subject, the last paragraph of the second minority report.

R. J. Morgan called for the previous question—the call was not sustained.

After considerable discussion, P. Tuggle called for the previous question—the call was sustained.

The vote was taken on the substitute moved by J. E. Edwards, and it was lost.

The vote was then taken on the first minority report, which was adopted by a vote of 135 to 38—being more than the two-thirds necessary for the change of one of the General Rules.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the Secretary was instructed to send the resolution around to the Annual Conferences for their action. (See page 440.)

The following communication from the Bishops was read by the Secretary:

VOTE OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCES ON THE VETO OF THE BISHOPS.

The College of Bishops respectfully report to the General Conference the result of a vote of the Annual Conferences on a constitutional question that was submitted to them:

The Committee on Episcopacy of the General Conference, met in Memphis, May, 1870, introduced the following:

Resolved, 1. That the last paragraph on page 44 of the Discipline, beginning with "Provided," and ending with the words "null and void," be stricken out.

2. That the following proviso, if it receive a two-thirds majority of this body, be sent round to the several Annual Conferences; and if it receive a three-fourths vote of the same, it shall be inserted in the Discipline in lieu of the aforesaid paragraph:

"*Provided* that when any rule or regulation is adopted by the General Conference, which, in the opinion of the Bishops, is unconstitutional, the Bishops may present to the Conference which passed said rule or regulation their objections thereto, with their reasons, in writing; and if then the General Conference shall, by a two-thirds vote, adhere to its action on said rule or regulation, it shall then take the course prescribed for altering a restrictive rule, and if thus passed upon affirmatively, the Bishops shall announce that such rule or regulation takes effect from that time."

These resolutions were adopted by the General Conference—160 yeas; 4 nays.

The resolutions were submitted by us to the several Annual Conferences next ensuing, and they were concurred in by an aggregate vote of 2,024 yeas to 9 nays.

The College of Bishops, at their annual meeting in May, 1871, called in the Book Agent and Book Editor to count the vote; and thereupon publication was made accordingly.

H. N. McTVEIRE,

ROBERT PAINE,

Secretary.

Chairman of the College of Bishops.

The Conference then proceeded to elect the Board of Missions.

A motion of T. J. Magruder, to appoint a committee consisting of one from each delegation to nominate all the officers, except the Secretary, did not prevail.

All the officers were elected *viva voce*, except the Secretary.

On motion of J. S. Key, a committee of five was appointed to nominate the eleven Managers.

The Chair appointed the following on the committee: Thomas O. Summers, A. H. Redford, William Burr, J. M. Sharpe, and R. A. Young.

On motion of E. W. Sehon, Thomas O. Summers was elected President.

On motion of W. C. Johnson, E. W. Sehon was elected Vice-President.

On motion of M. S. Andrews, A. H. Redford was elected Treasurer.

The ballot was then taken for Secretary, and resulted as follows:

There were 181 ballots cast, of which number J. B. McFerrin received 83 votes; W. G. E. Cunyngham, 20; T. M. Finney, 11; W. H. Potter, 10; A. G. Haygood, 9; J. S. Martin, 7; E. H. Myers, 5; I. G. John, 5; W. G. Connor, 5; E. W. Sehon, 5; R. A. Young, 4; L. S. Burkhead, 4; J. E. Edwards, 2; S. Rodgers, S. P. Richardson, A. W. Wilson, R. K. Hargrove, J. S. Key, and W. M. Kennedy, one each. As it required 91 votes for an election, no one was elected on the first ballot.

A motion of M. S. Andrews, to adjourn, did not prevail.

The reports of the Committees on Fraternal Greetings of the British Conference and the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Friday Morning, May 22, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Wightman in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by B. Craven.

The Minutes were read and approved.

On motion of the Secretary, the vote by which Article 2 of the Constitution of the Board of Missions was reconsidered; and, on motion of R. J. Morgan, the number "seventeen" was substituted for "eleven," as the number of Managers of the Board.

Thomas O. Summers and A. H. Redford asked to be excused from serving on the Committee of Nominations of Managers of the Board of Missions. They were excused, and W. M. Rush and B. Craven were put in their place.

J. B. McFerrin asked and obtained leave of absence this morning to visit F. E. Pitts, a delegate from the Tennessee Conference, who was lying very sick at Anchorage.

Bishop Marvin took the chair.

W. C. Johnson, Chairman of the Committee on Books and Periodicals, presented Report No. 9 of said committee, which was read.

Sections 1, 2, and 3 were adopted.

Article 4 was read, and H. A. C. Walker moved to amend by adding, after the word "books," the words, "except Sunday-school books, which shall be edited by the Sunday-school Secretary."

Pending the discussion of the amendment, the order of the day arrived.

J. Hamilton, Chairman of the Committee on the Fraternal Communication of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference, presented the report of said committee, which was read by the Secretary.

The report was adopted by a unanimous vote, and, on motion of W. M. Rush, a copy was ordered to be forwarded to the President of the Wesleyan Conference, through the senior Bishop, by the Secretary. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE FRATERNAL COMMUNICATION OF THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CONFERENCE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The committee to which was referred the communication from the Wesleyan Methodist Conference have had the same under careful consideration, and beg leave to recommend the following reply:

To the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of Great Britain:

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN IN CHRIST:—Your kind and Christian letter of fraternal greeting has been received by us through our venerable Bishop Paine, with great satisfaction, and we respond to it

in the same spirit of Christian candor and kindness as that in which it is expressed.

It has always been the desire of our Church to maintain cordial Christian relations with all bodies of believers who are essentially one in the common faith, and close fraternal relations with every branch of the great family of Methodism, of whatever distinctive name. But being aware of the light in which the heated denunciations of sectional prejudice and misunderstood surroundings have caused us to be viewed, we have not judged it becoming in us to seek the recognition and fellowship of Christian bodies, and so have calmly waited for time to soften asperities of feeling, remove the clouds of prejudice by correcting errors of the public mind, and with calmer thoughts to do us justice. We do not now propose to even state the grounds of our former or present position, or attempt any defense. Our Church has made its record, which is open to the world, and we trust to impartial history in calmer times to fully vindicate our course.

Believing that, ecclesiastically, we have occupied no ground which is not strictly scriptural, or different from that occupied by the venerable founder of Methodism, and the other great bodies of the Wesleyan family, we have not been able to see why your venerable body has failed to recognize us hitherto. But we rejoice to know that an era of clear views has dawned, and we sincerely pray that nothing may occur to overshadow it for a moment, and that the fraternal intercourse thus auspiciously begun may ripen into the firmest and purest bonds of Christian brotherhood and coöperation.

It affords us great joy at all times to know your fidelity and devotion to the faith of Christ, your success in winning souls, and the godly example furnished by your Church to the world, and, above all, your grand missionary work, the praise of which is throughout the Christian world. In all these things we would follow in your footsteps. Our missionary work, as well as our home operations, has been greatly retarded by the calamities through which our country has passed within the past few years, from which our section suffered most severely.

The great difference in the structure and conditions of society in our new and, in many sections, sparsely populated country, as compared with yours, is unfavorable to that compactness and organic completeness in our Church that have been attained by yours; but in the six hundred and fifty thousand members who compose our body there are multitudes who fear God, and serve with fidelity our common Master.

We rejoice to be able to say that we are not without manifest tokens

of the divine favor among us. Tens of thousands are added to our communion annually by profession of faith in Christ; and, to the praise of divine grace be it said, we have, from the beginning, enjoyed peace and unity throughout our body, to a remarkable degree. Our ministry is little given to vain and dangerous speculations, and our people are not easily moved from the faith of the gospel; and, though surrounded by the same forms of pretentious skepticism and arrogant sacerdotalism that lead so many astray in your country, we earnestly strive to maintain the "form of sound words" received through the ministration of the venerable Wesley, whose name is held in the highest reverence among us.

We have not been unmindful of our duty to our youth and to posterity, and are exerting ourselves to furnish our people, and as many outside of our pale as we can reach, the means of education under the fostering care of the Church and sanctions of religion. Besides numerous high-schools and academies, we have eleven colleges, in which some sixteen hundred youths and young men are pursuing a classical and scientific course. Of those, about one hundred and eighty are licensed preachers, or have the ministry in view as their life work. And we are just now engaged in measures for the establishment of a university upon a broad scale, for which we have secured more than six hundred thousand dollars.

The cause of Sunday-schools and the religious training of the young are receiving increased attention among us; a profound conviction is taking hold upon the minds of our people, that we must *train* the young in the way we would have them go in later life.

And now, Christian brethren, we send you our fraternal greeting in the Lord. You have our earnest prayers that you may greatly increase in numbers, and abound in every grace that constitutes a holy people, and mighty in the Lord; that the beauty of the Lord your God may be upon you, and that he may fully establish the work of your hands.

We shall rejoice to hear of your prosperity, and to receive messengers from you at all times.

J. HAMILTON, Chairman.

C. W. Miller, from the Committee on Fraternal Greetings of the M. E. Church, presented and read the report of said committee. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL GREETINGS OF THE
M. E. CHURCH.

The committee to whom was referred the matter of the fraternal greetings, conveyed to this General Conference by delegates duly com-

missioned from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, respectfully report:

We have considered the action of the General Conference of that Church at its session in Brooklyn, N. Y., in May, 1872, and which is partially incorporated in the certificate of the delegates in the following terms, to wit:

"To place ourselves in the truly fraternal relations toward our Southern brethren which the sentiments of our people demand, and to prepare the way for the opening of formal fraternity with them; be it hereby

"Resolved, That this General Conference will appoint a delegation, consisting of two ministers and one layman, to convey our fraternal greetings to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at its ensuing session."

On Friday, May the 8th, this delegation, consisting of the Rev. Dr. Albert S. Hunt, the Rev. Dr. Charles H. Fowler, and Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, having announced their presence, were formally received, and their communications heard by the Conference.

It is with pleasure that we bear testimony to the distinguished ability, and to the eloquent and courteous manner in which these Christian brethren discharged their trust. Their utterances warmed our hearts. Their touching allusions to the common heritage of Methodist history, to our oneness of doctrines, polity, and usage, and their calling to mind the great work in which we are both engaged for the extension of the kingdom of their Lord and ours, stirred within us precious memories.

We are called upon, by the terms of the action of their General Conference, to consider measures necessary "to prepare the way for the opening of formal fraternity." Every transaction and utterance of our past history pledges us to regard favorably, and to meet promptly, this initial response to our long-expressed desire.

We deem it proper, for the attainment of the object sought, to guard against all misapprehension.

Organic union is not involved in fraternity. In our view of the subject, the reasons for the separate existence of these two branches of Methodism are such as to make corporate union undesirable and impracticable. The events and experiences of the last thirty years have confirmed us in the conviction that such a consummation is demanded by neither reason nor charity. We believe that each Church can do its work and fulfill its mission most effectively by maintaining an independent organization. The causes which led to the division in 1844, upon a Plan of Separation mutually agreed upon, have not disappeared.

Some of them exist in their original form and force, and others have been modified, but not diminished.

The size of the Connection, and the extent of territory covered by it, had produced on some thoughtful minds before the events of 1844 the impression that separation would be convenient and otherwise advantageous. The General Conference, upon any proper basis of representation, was becoming too unwieldy for the ends originally designed. If this reason was of force then, it is more conclusive now. The membership of the M. E. Church, South, exceeds six hundred thousand; our Northern brethren have more than twice that number. Our General Conference is now composed of nearly three hundred ministers and laymen; theirs is proportionately larger.

It will be remembered that the last formal deliverance of the Southern representatives, in the united General Conference, was a protest against the power claimed for and exercised by that highest judicatory of the Church. The Northern members, who were a controlling majority, claimed for it prerogatives which seemed to us both dangerous and unconstitutional. In their view the General Conference is supreme. Although restricted in the exercises of its power by a constitution, it is the judge of the restrictions, and is thus practically unlimited. In our view the General Conference is a body of limited powers. It cannot absorb the functions of other and coördinate branches of the Church government, and there are methods by which all constitutional questions may be brought to a satisfactory issue.

Each Church still maintains its own construction of these fundamental questions. They are not theoretical merely, but very practical in their bearing. Were the two Methodisms organically united, it would lead to serious collision, and expose the minority to harassing legislation, if not to oppression.

The existence of slavery in the Southern States furnished an occasion, with its connected questions, fruitful of disturbance; and to this the division has been mainly attributed. The position of Southern Methodism on that subject was scriptural. Our opinions have undergone no change. We held ourselves in readiness to carry the gospel to the bond and to the free. Missions to the slaves constituted a large part of our work. Many of our ministers labored in this field, and much of our means was expended on it. These labors were eminently owned of God. At the beginning of the late war a quarter of a million of negroes were in the communion of our Church, and thousands of their children were receiving catechetical instruction. The societies organized in the Southern States during the last ten years by our

Northern brethren, and the members which swell their statistics, are made up largely of those who, in slavery, had been converted by our instrumentality. The colored preachers, exhorters, and class-leaders by whom they have principally carried on their Southern work, and some of whom have been counted worthy of seats in their Annual and General Conferences, were Christianized and trained under our ministry in other days. Following the indications of Providence we have, without abandoning this work, adapted our methods to the changed condition of the descendants of the African race in the midst of us. Many of them had been drawn away from us by appliances that we were not prepared to counteract; but a remnant remained. At their request we have set off our colored members into an independent ecclesiastical body with our own creed and polity. We have turned over to them the titles and possessions of the Church-property formerly held by us for their use and benefit, and we propose to continue to them such moral and material aid as we are able to give.

This method has met with encouraging success. We believe it to be the best for both races. They have now 15 Annual Conferences, 4 Bishops, 607 traveling preachers, 518 local preachers, 74,799 members, 535 Sunday-schools, 1,102 Sunday-school teachers, and 49,955 Sunday-school scholars. They dwell in the land side by side with us, and between us and them exist the kindest relations.

Our Northern brethren have pursued a different plan, and they seem to be committed to it by honest and conscientious convictions. They have mixed Conferences, mixed congregations, and mixed schools. We do not ask them to adopt our plan. We could not adopt theirs.

We refer to these things in order that our position may not be attributed by any to prejudice, resentment, or other motives unworthy of Christians. But whilst we are clear and final in our declarations against the union of the two Methodisms, we welcome measures looking to the removal of obstacles in the way of amity and peace. The existence of these obstacles is generally known, and they are frankly recognized in the addresses of the delegates sent to us.

It is admissible to review briefly what has been done or attempted by us in this direction. Our General Conference of 1846 "Resolved, by a rising and unanimous vote, That Dr. Lovick Pierce be, and is hereby, delegated to visit the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to be held in Pittsburgh May 1, 1848, to tender to that body the Christian regards and salutations of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South." In pursuance of this action, Dr. Pierce, duly commissioned, was present at the seat of

the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and by a note courteously advised them of his errand. The answer of that body was a unanimous vote declaring that "there are serious questions and difficulties existing between the two bodies," and they did not consider it proper at present to enter into fraternal relations with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Had our delegate been received and allowed a hearing, a more definite understanding might have been obtained of those "serious questions and difficulties," and the result, we think, would have been in the interest of peace. He closed his letter to the General Conference, on receiving a copy of its action, in these words: "You will therefore regard this communication as final on the part of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. She can never renew the offer of fraternal relations between the two great bodies of Wesleyan Methodists in the United States. But the proposition can be renewed at any time, either now or hereafter, by the Methodist Episcopal Church. And if ever made upon the basis of the Plan of Separation, as adopted by the General Conference of 1844, the Church South will cordially entertain the proposition." He reported the failure of his mission to our General Conference in St. Louis in 1850, which thereupon adopted the following:

"Resolved, That we will steadfastly adhere to the ground taken in the last communication of our delegate to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Pittsburgh in May, 1848, to wit: That we cannot, under their act of rejection and refusal, renew our offer of fraternal relations and intercourse; but will, at all times, entertain any proposition coming from the Methodist Episcopal Church to us, whether it be by written communication or delegation, having for its object friendly relations, and predicated of the rights granted to us by the Plan of Separation adopted in New York in 1844."

Here the matter rested until May, 1869, when the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church opened negotiations with our Bishops at their annual meeting in St. Louis, inviting them to "confer" as to "the propriety, practicability, and methods of reunion." Our Bishops respectfully declined to consider that subject, but invited their attention to one having precedence—the cultivation of fraternal relations. They suggested the removal of causes of strife; and this was done in a manner and spirit that met the hearty approval of our Church. They reëffirmed the position in which Dr. Pierce had left the matter, saying, "The words of our rejected delegate have been ever since, and still are, our words."

One passage of this correspondence we quote. The Northern Bish-

ops, in their letter, used these words: "That the great cause which led to the separation from us of both the Wesleyan Methodists of this country and of the Methodist Episcopal Church has passed away." To which the Southern Bishops replied:

"We cannot think you mean to offend us when you speak of our having separated from you, and put us in the same category with a small body of schismatics who were always an acknowledged secession. Allow us, in all kindness, brethren, to remind you, and to keep the important fact of history prominent, that we separated from you in no sense in which you did not separate from us. The separation was by compact, and mutual; and nearer approaches to each other can be conducted, with hope of a successful issue, only on this basis."

A deputation visited the General Conference of 1870, at Memphis, proposing to treat with us in the name of the Methodist Episcopal Church on the subject of union. They were received and heard with great respect. But it appeared, upon due inquiry, that they were not commissioned to us by their General Conference—the only body with which we can treat on Connectional interests. Nevertheless, the General Conference referred their communication to a committee, whose report, unanimously adopted, contained these resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That the action of our Bishops in their last annual meeting in St. Louis, in response to the message of the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, has the full indorsement of this General Conference, and accurately defines our position in reference to any overtures which may proceed from that Church, having in them an official and proper recognition of this body.

"*Resolved, moreover*, That if this distinguished Commission were fully clothed with authority to treat with us for union, it is the judgment of this Conference that the true interests of the Church of Christ require and demand the maintenance of our separate and distinct organization.

"*Resolved*, That we tender to the Rev. Bishop E. S. Janes, and the Rev. W. L. Harris, D.D., the members of the Commission now with us, our high regards as brethren beloved in the Lord, and express our desire that the day may soon come when proper Christian sentiments and fraternal relations between the two great branches of Northern and Southern Methodism shall be permanently established."

Thus stood the case when the distinguished delegates of the Methodist Episcopal Church, duly authorized by their General Conference of 1872, brought us their fraternal greetings. We hail them with pleasure, and embrace the opportunity at length afforded us of entering

into negotiations to secure tranquillity and fellowship to our alienated Commissions upon a permanent basis, and alike honorable to all.

Our brethren of the Methodist Episcopal Church will, we trust, appreciate our uniform and frequent reference to the Plan of Separation. No adjustment can be considered by us that ignores it. By that Plan we hold all our church-houses, cemeteries, school-buildings, and other property, acquired before the division. Under it we claimed and recovered our portion of the common fund in the Book Concerns at New York and Cincinnati.

When its validity was denied by our Northern brethren, and the share of the common property inuring to us under it was withheld by them, the Plan of Separation was taken for ultimate adjudication to the Supreme Court of the United States, and that highest civil tribunal, without a dissenting voice, affirmed its validity, and our rights under it.

When the representatives of the Methodist Episcopal Church asserted before that tribunal that they were the original Church, and that we were a secession, the court said :

"It can no more be affirmed, either in point of fact or of law, that they are traveling preachers in connection with the Methodist Church as originally constituted, since the division, than of those in connection with the Church, South. Their organization covers but about half of the territory embraced within that of the former Church; and includes within it but a little over two-thirds of the traveling preachers. Their General Conference is not the General Conference of the old Church, nor does it represent the interest or possess territorially the authority of the same; nor are they the body under whose care this fund was placed by its founders. It may be admitted that, within the restricted limits, the organization and authority are the same as the former Church; but the same is equally true in respect to the organization of the Church, South."

When the same parties attempted to set aside the Plan of Separation, on the ground that it was made without proper authority, the court said:

"But we do not agree that this division was made without the proper authority. On the contrary, we entertain no doubt but that the General Conference of 1844 was competent to make it; and that each division of the Church, under the separate organization, is just as legitimate, and can claim as high a sanction, ecclesiastical and temporal, as the Methodist Episcopal Church, first founded in the United States. The same authority which founded that Church in

1784 has divided it, and established two separate and independent organizations, occupying the place of the old one."

However others may regard that instrument, the Plan of Separation is too important in its application to our *status* and security to be lightly esteemed by us. If it should be said that its provisions touching territorial limits have been violated by both parties, we have this to say: We are ready to confer with our Northern brethren on that point. A joint commission, having this feature of the compact under revision, might reach a solution mutually satisfactory.

Measures preparatory to formal fraternity would be defective that leave out of view questions in dispute between the Methodist Episcopal Church and ourselves. These questions relate to the course pursued by some of their accredited agents whilst prosecuting their work in the South, and to property which has been taken and held by them to this day against our protest and remonstrance. Although feeling ourselves sorely aggrieved in these things, we stand ready to meet our brethren of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the spirit of Christian candor, and to compose all differences upon the principles of justice and equity.

It is to be regretted that the honored representatives who bore fraternal greetings to us were not empowered also to enter upon a settlement of these vexed questions. We are prepared to take advanced steps in this direction, and, waiving any considerations which might justify a greater reserve, we will not only appoint a delegation to return the greetings so gracefully conveyed to us from the Methodist Episcopal Church, but we will also provide for a commission to meet a similar commission from that Church for the purpose of settling disturbing questions.

Open and righteous treatment of all cases of complaint will furnish the only solid ground upon which we can meet. Relations of amity are, with special emphasis, demanded between bodies so near akin. We be brethren. To the realization of this the families of Methodism are called by the movements of the times. The attractive power of the cross is working mightily. The Christian elements in the world are all astir in their search for each other. Christian hearts are crying to each other across vast spaces, and longing for fellowship. The heart of Southern Methodism being in full accord with these sentiments, your committee submit the following resolutions for adoption:

Resolved, 1. That this General Conference has received with pleasure the fraternal greetings of the Methodist Episcopal Church, conveyed to us by their delegates, and that our College of Bishops be, and are

hereby, authorized to appoint a delegation, consisting of two ministers and one layman, to bear our Christian salutations to their next ensuing General Conference.

Resolved, 2. That, in order to remove all obstacles to formal fraternity between the two Churches, our College of Bishops is authorized to appoint a Commission, consisting of three ministers and two laymen, to meet a similar Commission authorized by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and to adjust all existing difficulties.

A. W. WILSON,
L. PARKER,
A. L. P. GREEN,
C. W. MILLER,
R. ALEXANDER,
R. W. JONES,
S. BOBO,
J. L. DE YAMPERT,
D. K. PITTMAN.

E. E. Wiley moved the adoption of the report.

N. Head, P. A. Peterson, and L. M. Lee, spoke adversely to it. Pending the remarks of L. M. Lee, the five minutes' rule was suspended during the discussion of this subject.

S. Regester offered a substitute for the report, which was read, as follows:

SUBSTITUTE FOR THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL
GREETINGS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Whereas, after a period of thirty years of strife and estrangement between the two great coördinate branches of American Methodism, this General Conference has, in the good providence of God, been favored with the presence of "Fraternal Messengers" from the Methodist Episcopal Church; and whereas, we hail this auspicious event as the dawn of an epoch that must happily witness the cessation of every difference and bitterness between those who have so much in common; therefore, be it

Resolved, by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, That we are profoundly grateful to Almighty God for the presence, addresses, and Christian spirit, of our brethren, Rev. Drs. Hunt and Fowler, and General Fisk, the accredited Fraternal Messengers of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and we hereby assure them, and those they represent, that we most heartily reciprocate their kindly greetings.

Resolved, 2. That it is our firm persuasion and our decided judgment that the godly wisdom and Christian spirit of the two Methodisms in question, acting under the guidance of the Spirit of God, are fully equal to the delicate and difficult task of satisfactorily adjusting all matters, of whatever sort, that are in issue between the two kindred bodies.

Resolved, 3. That, as the spiritual unity and doctrinal identity of our common Methodism have been preserved unbroken amidst all our difficulties and alienations, it would be a reproach to our Christian character if the gracious and brotherly spirit now actuating thousands of hearts in both Churches shall prove unproductive of, and fail to develop, some sound, and just, and mutually honorable principle and ground of permanent fraternal relations.

Resolved, 4. That we will, as far as consistency and opportunity may allow and justify, promote this most desirable consummation by our personal dispositions and acts; and that we, furthermore, thus officially declare our perfect willingness to recognize any competent Commission that may be instituted for the final settlement of all mere business matters and questions, and that we will most cheerfully treat with such Commission.

Resolved, 5. That our Bishops be, and they are hereby, authorized, at any time that circumstances may require such action, to appoint Commissioners to coöperate with any that may be appointed on the part of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to act as arbitrators for the settlement of all ecclesiastical and business questions between us and the Methodist Episcopal Church; and our Bishops are further authorized to appoint Fraternal Messengers to the approaching General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

SAMUEL REGESTER,
N. G. COE,
NELSON HEAD,
C. I. VANDEVENTER.

The substitute was advocated by S. Regester and E. W. Sehon.

C. W. Miller defended the report—and he was allowed to conclude his remarks without regard to the fifteen minutes' rule.

He was followed on the same side by A. W. Wilson, chairman of the committee; and the time was extended for him to conclude his speech. Pending his remarks, on motion of J. E. Evans, the Conference resolved to meet this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Friday Afternoon, May 22, 1874.

Conference met at the appointed hour, Bishop Marvin in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by A. R. Winfield.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

D. K. Pittman, a lay delegate of the Missouri Conference, and C. P. Crawford, a lay delegate of the North Georgia Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence.

On motion of J. C. Granbery, the Book Agent and Book Editor were instructed to prepare and publish Church Registers for the use of our Churches.

An invitation was received from the President and Directors of the German Protestant Asylum to visit that institution, and it was accepted.

Bishop Marvin then addressed the Conference on the pending question.

Bishop Doggett took the chair.

The question on which the Conference adjourned in the morning was resumed.

A. W. Wilson concluded his remarks in defense of the report.

J. Jackson followed in support of the substitute.

J. A. Duncan spoke in favor of separating the response to the fraternal greetings from the proposition to adjust the differences between the two Connections.

J. Hamilton favored the substitute if it could be amended. The Chair decided that it could not be amended.

C. W. Miller explained some points concerning the report. J. E. Evans followed in its support.

A motion of T. Branch and A. W. Wilson, to refer the report and the substitute to a special committee, consisting of S. Regester, J. Jackson, J. A. Duncan, J. Hamilton, and T. Polk, was, on motion of H. J. Adams, laid on the table.

W. W. Bennett moved to recommit the report, with the substitute, to the committee.

A motion of E. E. Wiley to lay this on the table did not prevail.

The motion of W. W. Bennett was adopted; and, on motion of T. Branch, S. Regester, J. Hamilton, and J. A. Duncan were added to the committee.

The balloting for Secretary of the Board of Missions was then resumed. There were 175 votes cast, of which J. B. McFerrin received 106; W. H. Potter received 28; W. G. E. Cunnyingham, 24; A. G. Haygood, 5; T. M. Finney, 4; R. A. Young, 2; J. S. Martin, 2;

R. H. Rivers, J. E. Edwards, E. W. Sehon, and L. S. Burkhead, 1 each. J. B. McFerrin, having received more than a majority, was declared duly elected Secretary of the Board of Missions.

B. Craven, chairman of the committee to nominate Managers for the Board of Missions, reported the following: J. S. Martin, of the Baltimore Conference; W. G. E. Cunyngham, Holston Conference; L. S. Burkhead, North Carolina Conference; W. H. Fleming, South Carolina Conference; A. G. Haygood, North Georgia Conference; R. A. Young, D. C. Kelley, and R. K. Hargrove, Tennessee Conference; W. M. McCarthy, J. M. Sharpe, and J. S. Bransford, laymen, of Nashville; H. H. Montgomery, of Mississippi Conference; I. G. John, Texas Conference; A. R. Winfield, Little Rock Conference; W. M. Leftwich, St. Louis Conference; W. M. Rush, Missouri Conference; E. K. Miller, Pacific Conference.

The nominations were confirmed by the Conference.

J. W. Gaut was appointed in place of R. W. Jones, and J. E. Ryland in place of D. K. Pittman, on the Committee on Fraternal Relations.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Saturday Morning, May 23, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Doggett in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by Mark S. Andrews. Special petitions were offered, by request, for Samuel Anthony, and other sick members of the Conference, and the family of the member deceased.

The Minutes were read and approved.

J. C. Granbery, clerical delegate from the Virginia Conference, and J. D. Vincil, clerical delegate from the Missouri Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence on account of family affliction.

R. J. Morgan, lay delegate from the Memphis Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence on account of official duties as Chancellor.

J. D. Anthony, clerical delegate from the North Alabama Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence on account of personal affliction.

Bishop McTyeire took the chair.

J. B. McFerrin announced the death of one of the clerical delegates of the Tennessee Conference, whereupon the following preamble and resolutions were offered and adopted:

RESOLUTIONS ON THE DEATH OF F. E. PITTS.

Whereas, this General Conference has heard, with emotions of sorrow, of the death of one of its members, the Rev. Fountain E. Pitts, a delegate from the Tennessee Conference, which sad event took place at Anchorage last evening, Friday, May 22; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the members of this Conference are profoundly affected by the intelligence of the death of one of its members, the Rev. Fountain E. Pitts.

Resolved, 2. That they rejoice to learn that the life of our deceased brother, which was crowded with so many and successful labors, was crowned with a triumphant end.

Resolved, 3. That they will, in a body, attend the obsequies of Brother Pitts at the Walnut Street Church this afternoon at 3 o'clock—the service to be conducted under the direction of the Committee on Public Worship.

Resolved, 4. That the Conference sincerely sympathizes with the stricken widow and other relatives and friends of our deceased brother.

Resolved, 5. That J. B. McFerrin, J. W. Hanner, R. P. Ransom, and A. Thomas be, and are hereby, appointed a committee to meet the remains at their arrival in Louisville this morning, and deposit them in Walnut Street Church; and that W. Burr and A. Thomas be, and are hereby, appointed a committee to accompany the remains to the city of Nashville for interment.

THOS. O. SUMMERS,
J. M. SHARPE.

R. Alexander, Chairman of the Committee on Boundaries, presented Report No. 4 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES, NO. 4.

The resolution of A. Hunter, A. R. Winfield, G. A. Dannelly, and others, delegates from the Conferences in Arkansas, has been duly considered, and the committee recommend—

That the three Annual Conferences be, and they are hereby, authorized by this General Conference to so change their boundaries as to make two or more Conferences, as they may deem best, and by such dividing lines as they may agree upon.

R. ALEXANDER,
Chairman.

W. M. LEFTWICH, Secretary.

By a suspension of the rule, Report No. 1 of the Committee on Finance was taken up. M. Brown, chairman of the committee, urged its adoption.

On motion of W. F. Cook, the report was amended by striking out

a clause referring to the taking up of collections by ministers; and as thus amended, the report was adopted. (See pp. 434, 435.)

The report of the Special Committee, to whom was recommitted the report of the Committee on Fraternal Greetings, presented yesterday, with the substitute, was presented and read, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO WHOM WAS RECOMMITTED THE "REPORT
ON FRATERNAL GREETINGS WITH THE M. E. CHURCH."

Your committee find themselves confronted with two questions, one in respect to fraternal greetings, and another in respect to certain practical issues now existing between the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. We recommend such readjustment of the items of the original report as will place each item under its proper question.

A. W. WILSON,
L. PARKER,
C. W. MILLER,
R. ALEXANDER,
JAS. A. DUNCAN,
J. W. GAUT.

Such readjustment is as follows:

The committee to whom was referred the matter of the fraternal greetings, conveyed to this General Conference by delegates duly commissioned from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, respectfully report:

We have considered the action of the General Conference of that Church at its session in Brooklyn, N. Y., in May, 1872, and which is partially incorporated in the certificate of the delegates in the following terms, to wit:

"To place ourselves in the truly fraternal relations toward our Southern brethren which the sentiments of our people demand, and to prepare the way for the opening of formal fraternity with them; be it hereby

"*Resolved*, That this General Conference will appoint a delegation, consisting of two ministers and one layman, to convey our fraternal greetings to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at its next ensuing session."

On Friday, May the 8th, this delegation, consisting of the Rev. Dr. Albert S. Hunt, the Rev. Dr. Charles H. Fowler, and Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, having announced their presence, were formally received, and their communications heard by the Conference.

It is with pleasure that we bear testimony to the distinguished ability; and to the eloquent and courteous manner in which these Christian

brethren discharged their trust. Their utterances warmed our hearts. Their touching allusions to the common heritage of Methodist history, to our oneness of doctrines, polity, and usage, and their calling to mind the great work in which we are, both engaged for the extension of the kingdom of their Lord and ours, stirred within us precious memories.

We are called upon, by the terms of the action of their General Conference, to consider measures necessary "to prepare the way for the opening of formal fraternity." Every transaction and utterance of our past history pledges us to regard favorably, and to meet promptly, this initial response to our long-expressed desire.

It is admissible to review briefly what has been done or attempted by us in this direction. Our General Conference of 1846 "Resolved, by a rising and unanimous vote, That Dr. Lovick Pierce be, and is hereby, delegated to visit the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to be held in Pittsburgh May 1, 1848, to tender to that body the Christian regards and salutations of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South." In pursuance of this action, Dr. Pierce, duly commissioned, was present at the seat of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and by a note courteously advised them of his errand. The answer of that body was a unanimous vote declaring that "there are serious questions and difficulties existing between the two bodies," and they did "not consider it proper at present to enter into fraternal relations with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South." Had our delegate been received and allowed a hearing, a more definite understanding might have been obtained of those "serious questions and difficulties," and the result, we think, would have been in the interest of peace. He closed his letter to the General Conference, on receiving a copy of its action, in these words: "You will therefore regard this communication as final on the part of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. She can never renew the offer of fraternal relations between the two great bodies of Wesleyan Methodists in the United States. But the proposition can be renewed at any time, either now or hereafter, by the Methodist Episcopal Church. And if ever made upon the basis of the Plan of Separation, as adopted by the General Conference of 1844, the Church, South, will cordially entertain the proposition." He reported the failure of his mission to our General Conference in St. Louis in 1850, which thereupon adopted the following:

"*Resolved*, That we will steadfastly adhere to the ground taken in the last communication of our delegate to the General Conference of the

Methodist Episcopal Church in Pittsburgh in May, 1848, to wit: That we cannot, under their act of rejection and refusal, renew our offer of fraternal relations and intercourse; but will, at all times, entertain any proposition coming from the Methodist Episcopal Church to us, whether it be by written communication or delegation, having for its object friendly relations, and predicated of the rights granted to us by the Plan of Separation adopted in New York in 1844."

Here the matter rested until May, 1869, when the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church opened negotiations with our Bishops at their annual meeting in St. Louis, inviting them to "confer" as to "the propriety, practicability, and methods of reunion." Our Bishops respectfully declined to consider that subject, but invited their attention to one having precedence—the cultivation of fraternal relations. They suggested the removal of causes of strife; and this was done in a manner and spirit that met the hearty approval of our Church. They reaffirmed the position in which Dr. Pierce had left the matter, saying, "The words of our rejected delegate have been ever since, and still are, our words."

One passage of this correspondence we quote. The Northern Bishops, in their letter, used these words: "That the great cause which led to the separation from us of both the Wesleyan Methodists of this country and of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has passed away." To which the Southern Bishops replied:

"We cannot think you mean to offend us when you speak of our having separated from you, and put us in the same category with a small body of schismatics who were always an acknowledged secession. Allow us, in all kindness, brethren, to remind you, and to keep the important fact of history prominent, that we separated from you in no sense in which you did not separate from us. The separation was by compact, and mutual; and nearer approaches to each other can be conducted, with hope of a successful issue, only on this basis."

A deputation visited our General Conference of 1870, at Memphis, proposing to treat with us in the name of the Methodist Episcopal Church on the subject of union. They were received and heard with great respect. But it appeared, upon due inquiry, that they were not commissioned to us by their General Conference—the only body with which we can treat on Connectional interests. Nevertheless, the General Conference referred their communication to a committee, whose report; unanimously adopted, contained these resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That the action of our Bishops in their last annual meeting in St. Louis, in response to the message of the Bishops of the

Methodist Episcopal Church, has the full indorsement of this General Conference, and accurately defines our position in reference to any overtures which may proceed from that Church, having in them an official and proper recognition of this body.

“Resolved, moreover, That if this distinguished Commission were fully clothed with authority to treat with us for union, it is the judgment of this Conference that the true interests of the Church of Christ require and demand the maintenance of our separate and distinct organization.

“Resolved, That we tender to the Rev. Bishop E. S. Janes, and the Rev. W. L. Harris, D.D., the members of the Commission now with us, our high regards as brethren beloved in the Lord, and express our desire that the day may soon come when proper Christian sentiments and fraternal relations between the two great branches of Northern and Southern Methodism shall be permanently established.”

Thus stood the case when the distinguished delegates of the Methodist Episcopal Church, duly authorized by their General Conference of 1872, brought us their fraternal greetings. We hail them with pleasure, and embrace the opportunity at length afforded us of entering into negotiations to secure tranquillity and fellowship to our alienated Communions upon a permanent basis, and alike honorable to all.

We deem it proper, for the attainment of the object sought, to guard against all misapprehension.

Organic union is not involved in fraternity. In our view of the subject, the reasons for the separate existence of these two branches of Methodism are such as to make corporate union undesirable and impracticable. The events and experiences of the last thirty years have confirmed us in the conviction that such a consummation is demanded by neither reason nor charity. We believe that each Church can do its work and fulfill its mission most effectively by maintaining an independent organization. The causes which led to the division in 1844, upon a Plan of Separation mutually agreed upon, have not disappeared. Some of them exist in their original form and force, and others have been modified, but not diminished.

The size of the Connection, and the extent of territory covered by it, had produced on some thoughtful minds, before the events of 1844, the impression that separation would be convenient and otherwise advantageous. The General Conference, upon any proper basis of representation, was becoming too unwieldy for the ends originally designed. If this reason was of force then, it is more conclusive now. The membership of the M. E. Church, South, exceeds six hundred thousand;

our Northern brethren have more than twice that number. Our General Conference is now composed of nearly three hundred ministers and laymen; theirs is proportionately larger.

It will be remembered that the last formal deliverance of the Southern representatives, in the united General Conference, was a protest against the power claimed for and exercised by that highest judicatory of the Church. The Northern members, who were a controlling majority, claimed for it prerogatives which seemed to us both dangerous and unconstitutional. In their view the General Conference is supreme. Although restricted in the exercise of its power by a constitution, it is the judge of the restrictions, and is thus practically unlimited. In our view the General Conference is a body of limited powers. It cannot absorb the functions of other and coördinate branches of the Church government, and there are methods by which all constitutional questions may be brought to a satisfactory issue.

Each Church still maintains its own construction of these fundamental questions. They are not theoretical merely, but very practical in their bearing. Were the two Methodisms organically united, it would lead to serious collision, and expose the minority to harassing legislation, if not to oppression.

The existence of slavery in the Southern States furnished an occasion, with its connected questions, fruitful of disturbance; and to this the division has been mainly attributed. The position of Southern Methodism on that subject was scriptural. Our opinions have undergone no change. We held ourselves in readiness to carry the gospel to the bond and to the free. Missions to the slaves constituted a large part of our work. Many of our ministers labored in this field, and much of our means was expended on it. These labors were eminently owned of God. At the beginning of the late war a quarter of a million of negroes were in the communion of our Church, and thousands of their children were receiving catechetical instruction. The societies organized in the Southern States during the last ten years by our Northern brethren, and the members which swell their statistics, are made up largely of those who, in slavery, had been converted by our instrumentality. The colored preachers, exhorters, and class-leaders by whom they have principally carried on their Southern work, and some of whom have been counted worthy of seats in their Annual and General Conferences, were Christianized and trained under our ministry in other days. Following the indications of Providence, we have, without abandoning this work, adapted our methods to the changed condition of the descendants of the African race in the midst of us.

Many of them had been drawn away from us by appliances that we were not prepared to counteract; but a remnant remained. At their request, we have set off our colored members into an independent ecclesiastical body with our own creed and polity. We have turned over to them the titles and possessions of the Church-property formerly held by us for their use and benefit, and we propose to continue to them such moral and material aid as we are able to give.

This method has met with encouraging success. We believe it to be the best for both races. They have now 15 Annual Conferences, 4 Bishops, 607 traveling preachers, 518 local preachers, 74,799 members, 535 Sunday-schools, 1,102 Sunday-school teachers, and 49,955 Sunday-school scholars. They dwell in the land side by side with us, and between us and them exist the kindest relations.

Our Northern brethren have pursued a different plan, and they seem to be committed to it by honest and conscientious convictions. They have mixed Conferences, mixed congregations, and mixed schools. We do not ask them to adopt our plan. We could not adopt theirs.

We refer to these things in order that our position may not be attributed by any to prejudice, resentment, or other motives unworthy of Christians. But whilst we are clear and final in our declarations against the union of the two Methodisms, we welcome measures looking to the removal of obstacles in the way of amity and peace. The existence of these obstacles is generally known, and they are frankly recognized in the addresses of the delegates sent to us.

Our brethren of the Methodist Episcopal Church will, we trust, appreciate our uniform and frequent reference to the Plan of Separation. No adjustment can be considered by us that ignores it. By that Plan we hold all our church-houses, cemeteries, school-buildings, and other property, acquired before the division. Under it we claimed and recovered our portion of the common fund in the Book Concerns at New York and Cincinnati.

When its validity was denied by our Northern brethren, and the share of the common property inuring to us under it was withheld by them, the Plan of Separation was taken for ultimate adjudication to the Supreme Court of the United States, and that highest civil tribunal, without a dissenting voice, affirmed its validity, and our rights under it.

When the representatives of the Methodist Episcopal Church asserted before that tribunal that they were the original Church, and that we were a secession, the court said:

“It can no more be affirmed, either in point of fact or of law, that

they are traveling preachers in connection with the Methodist Church as originally constituted, since the division, than of those in connection with the Church, South. Their organization covers but about half of the territory embraced within that of the former Church; and includes within it but a little over two-thirds of the traveling preachers. Their General Conference is not the General Conference of the old Church, nor does it represent the interest or possess territorially the authority of the same; nor are they the body under whose care this fund was placed by its founders. It may be admitted that, within the restricted limits, the organization and authority are the same as the former Church; but the same is equally true in respect to the organization of the Church, South."

When the same parties attempted to set aside the Plan of Separation, on the ground that it was made without proper authority, the court said:

"But we do not agree that this division was made without the proper authority. On the contrary, we entertain no doubt but that the General Conference of 1844 was competent to make it; and that each division of the Church, under the separate organization, is just as legitimate, and can claim as high a sanction, ecclesiastical and temporal, as the Methodist Episcopal Church, first founded in the United States. The same authority which founded that Church in 1784 has divided it, and established two separate and independent organizations, occupying the place of the old one."

However others may regard that instrument, the Plan of Separation is too important in its application to our *status* and security to be lightly esteemed by us. If it should be said that its provisions touching territorial limits have been violated by both parties, we have this to say: We are ready to confer with our Northern brethren on that point. A joint commission, having this feature of the compact under revision, might reach a solution mutually satisfactory.

Measures preparatory to formal fraternity would be defective that leave out of view questions in dispute between the Methodist Episcopal Church and ourselves. These questions relate to the course pursued by some of their accredited agents whilst prosecuting their work in the South, and to property which has been taken and held by them to this day against our protest and remonstrance. Although feeling ourselves sorely aggrieved in these things, we stand ready to meet our brethren of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the spirit of Christian candor, and to compose all differences upon the principles of justice and equity.

It is to be regretted that the honored representatives who bore fraternal greetings to us were not empowered also to enter upon a settlement of these vexed questions. We are prepared to take advanced steps in this direction, and, waiving any considerations which might justify a greater reserve, we will not only appoint a delegation to return the greetings so gracefully conveyed to us from the Methodist Episcopal Church, but we will also provide for a commission to meet a similar commission from that Church for the purpose of settling disturbing questions.

Open and righteous treatment of all cases of complaint will furnish the only solid ground upon which we can meet. Relations of amity are, with special emphasis, demanded between bodies so near akin. We be brethren. To the realization of this the families of Methodism are called by the movements of the times. The attractive power of the cross is working mightily. The Christian elements in the world are all astir in their search for each other. Christian hearts are crying to each other across vast spaces, and longing for fellowship. The heart of Southern Methodism being in full accord with these sentiments, your committee submit the following resolutions for adoption:

Resolved, 1. That this General Conference has received with pleasure the fraternal greetings of the Methodist Episcopal Church, conveyed to us by their delegates, and that our College of Bishops be, and are hereby, authorized to appoint a delegation, consisting of two ministers and one layman, to bear our Christian salutations to their next ensuing General Conference.

Resolved, 2. That, in order to remove all obstacles to formal fraternity between the two Churches, our College of Bishops is authorized to appoint a Commission, consisting of three ministers and two laymen, to meet a similar Commission authorized by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and to adjust all existing difficulties.

A. W. WILSON,
L. PARKER,
A. L. P. GREEN,
C. W. MILLER,
R. ALEXANDER,
R. W. JONES,
S. BOBO,
J. L. DE YAMPERT,
D. K. PITTMAN.

J. Hamilton, S. Regester, and J. E. Ryland, from the committee, presented a minority report as a substitute for the report of the majority, which was read, and its adoption moved as a substitute for the majority report. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE TO WHOM THE REPORT
ON FRATERNAL GREETINGS WAS RECOMMITTED.

A minority of the committee to which was referred the two reports on fraternal greetings beg leave to offer the following as a substitute for the report of the majority:

The committee to whom was referred the matter of fraternal greetings, conveyed to this General Conference by the delegates duly commissioned from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, respectfully report:

We have considered the action of the General Conference of that Church at its session in Brooklyn, New York, in May, 1872, and which is partially incorporated in the certificate in the following terms, to wit:

"To place ourselves in the truly friendly relations toward our Southern brethren which the sentiments of our people demand, and to prepare the way for the opening of formal fraternity with them, be it hereby

"Resolved, That this General Conference will appoint a delegation, consisting of two ministers and one layman, to convey our fraternal greetings to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at its next ensuing session."

On Friday, May 8, this delegation, consisting of the Rev. Dr. Albert S. Hunt, the Rev. Dr. Charles H. Fowler, and General Clinton B. Fisk, having announced their presence, were formally received, and their communications heard by the Conference.

It is with pleasure that we bear testimony to the distinguished ability and to the eloquent and courteous manner in which these Christian brethren discharged their trust. Their utterances warmed our hearts. Their touching allusions to the common heritage of Methodist history, to our oneness of doctrines, polity, and usage, and their calling to mind the great work in which we are both engaged for the extension of the kingdom of their Lord and ours, stirred within us precious memories.

We are called upon, by the terms of the action of their General Conference, to consider measures necessary "to prepare the way for the opening of formal fraternity." Every transaction and utterance of our past history pledges us to regard favorably, and to meet promptly, this initial response to our long-expressed desire.

But measures preparatory to formal fraternity would be defective that leave out of view questions in dispute between the M. E. Church and ourselves. These questions relate to the course pursued by some of their accredited agents whilst prosecuting their work in the South, and to property which has been taken and held by them to this day against our protest and remonstrance.

Although feeling ourselves sorely aggrieved in these things, we stand ready to meet our brothers of the M. E. Church in the spirit of Christian candor, and to compose all differences upon the principles of justice and equity.

It is to be regretted that the honored representatives who bore fraternal greetings to us were not empowered also to enter upon a settlement of these vexed questions. We are prepared to take advanced steps in this direction; and, waiving any considerations which might justify a greater reserve, we will not only appoint a delegation to return the greeting so gracefully conveyed to us from the M. E. Church, but we will also provide for a commission to meet a similar commission from that Church for the purpose of settling disturbing questions.

Open and righteous treatment of all cases of complaint will furnish the only solid ground upon which we can meet. Relations of amity are with special emphasis demanded between bodies so near akin. We are brethren. To the realization of this the families of Methodism are called by the movements of the times. The attractive power of the cross is working mightily. The Christian elements in the world are all astir in their search for each other. Christian hearts are crying to each other across vast spaces, and longing for fellowship. The hearts of Southern Methodism, being in full accord with those sentiments, your committee submit the following resolutions for adoption:

Resolved, 1. That this General Conference has received with pleasure the fraternal greetings of the M. E. Church conveyed to us by their delegates, and that our Bishops be, and they are hereby, authorized to appoint a delegation, consisting of two ministers and one layman, to bear our Christian salutations to their next ensuing General Conference.

Resolved, 2. That in order to remove all obstacles to formal fraternity between the two Churches, our College of Bishops is authorized to appoint a commission, consisting of three ministers and two laymen, to meet a similar commission authorized by the General Conference of the M. E. Church, and to adjust all existing difficulties.

J. HAMILTON,
SAMUEL REGESTER,
JOHN E. RYLAND.

J. A. Duncan spoke on the question, and was allowed to continue his remarks without regard to the fifteen minutes' rule.

J. Hamilton followed in advocacy of the minority report.

W. Milnes, jr., followed in the same line.

J. E. Evans and Anson West spoke in favor of the majority report; J. B. McFerrin against it.

S. Regester followed in favor of the minority report.

W. H. Potter favored the majority report.

On motion of W. W. Bennett, the time of adjournment was extended half an hour.

T. Polk advocated the report of the majority.

T. M. Meriwether called for the previous question—the call was sustained.

The question was put on the adoption of the minority report, which was not adopted—the vote being 65 to 103.

The question was then put on the adoption of the report of the majority. It was adopted by a vote of 110 to 61.

On motion of S. Regester, Conference resolved to meet at 2½ P.M. at the Hall, and proceed in a body to Walnut Street Church to attend the funeral-service of the late F. E. Pitts.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Monday Morning, May 25, 1874.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by S. W. Moore.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Introductions brought forward the Rev. Alexander Clark, editor of the *Methodist Recorder*, the organ of the Methodist Church, who was introduced by the Chair to the Conference. He made a fraternal address to the Conference, assuring it of the kind feeling of the Methodist and Methodist Protestant Churches. The Chair responded felicitously to Brother Clark, assuring him that the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, will be always ready to fraternize with the Connection which he represented, and all other bodies that bear the honored family name.

Bishop Keener took the chair.

On motion of J. T. Heard and A. R. Winfield, the Bishops were requested to bring forward such business as they consider of greatest importance.

Report No. 9 of the Committee on Books and Periodicals was

called up. Article 4 was amended by inserting, after the word "publication," the words "except our Sunday-school books, which shall be edited by the Sunday-school Secretary." The report, as amended, was adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS, NO. 9.

The resolution of W. W. Bennett and E. E. Wiley, instructing the committee to revive and revise the action of the General Conference of 1866 in regard to the publication of books and periodicals, has been carefully considered, and the committee, after making several minor changes, report the following regulations for adoption by the General Conference:

I.—*Publishing House.*

1. There shall be an establishment in the city of Nashville, Tennessee, for the purpose of manufacturing and publishing books, to be called "The Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South," and to be under the control of the General Book Agent, and a committee to be called the Book Committee, all of whom shall be elected by the General Conference.

2. The object of this institution shall be to advance the cause of Christianity, by disseminating religious knowledge and useful literary and scientific information in the form of books, tracts, and periodicals.

II.—*Duties of the General Book Agent.*

The General Book Agent shall have charge of the funds, stocks, fixtures, and real estate, and all other property of the Publishing House, and of the Depository, or Depositories, belonging to the General Conference; and he shall be responsible to said Conference for the prudent use and safe management of the same, under the general direction of the Conference. He shall make a yearly exhibit to the several Annual Conferences, and give a full account of the state and progress of the business to the General Conference. He shall publish such books and tracts only as are approved by the Book Editor, to be hereinafter provided for; and in case of difference between the Book Agent and the Book Editor, the matter shall be referred to the Book Committee. He shall supply, as far as practicable, the demand of the Church for books, tracts, and periodicals, availing himself of all the facilities of other establishments for their publication, at the cheapest rates; and in all investments for the manufacturing of books he shall be governed strictly by the principles

of economy. He shall sell the books for cash or on short credit, but in no case shall he grant credits where, in his judgment, it will endanger the interests of the Publishing House. He shall make no investments in grounds, houses, or permanent fixtures, without the authority of the Book Committee.

III.—*The Book Committee.*

There shall be a Book Committee of nine, five of whom shall be resident at Nashville, Tennessee. They shall, whenever consulted, give advice to the General Book Agent on all matters connected with the Publishing House. They shall fix the salaries of the Agent and Editors at Nashville; and during the intervals of the General Conference, they, and one or more of the Bishops, shall have the power to fill vacancies in their own body, in the agency, and in the editorial corps at Nashville.

IV.—*General Conference Periodicals and Editors.*

The General Book Agent shall be authorized to publish a weekly periodical, or newspaper, to be called the *Christian Advocate*, the Editor of which shall be elected by the General Conference. He shall be the Book Editor also, and as such shall edit all the books of our publication, except our Sunday-school books, which shall be edited by the Sunday-school Secretary. The General Book Agent shall be authorized to publish the *Sunday-school Magazine* and Lesson Papers, the *Sunday-school Visitor*, and *Our Little People*, all of which shall be edited by the Sunday-school Secretary, who shall be elected by the General Conference. It is provided that if additional editorial labor become necessary the Book Committee, with the General Book Agent and one of the Bishops, in the interval of the General Conference, shall have authority to elect an additional editor, or editors, who shall come under the same rule as to salary with the General Book Agent and the other editors.

V.—*Proceeds of the Publishing House.*

The proceeds of the Publishing House shall be appropriated to no other purpose than its own legitimate business.

VI.—*Depositories.*

1. The Depository at New Orleans shall be continued under the superintendence of an Agent, to be appointed by the General Book Agent.

2. Any Conference, or two or more Conferences unitedly, may establish a Depository, or Agency, for the sale of our publications: *provided* the business with the Publishing House be conducted upon strictly business principles. And the General Book Agent is authorized to suspend operations with any Depository, or Agency, that does not meet its payments promptly.

VII.—*Conference Relations of the Agent and Editors.*

Each of the above-named officers, elected by the General Conference, if he be a traveling preacher, shall be a member of such Annual Conference as he may select, with the approval of the Bishops.

VIII.—*Other Church-papers.*

The editors for such papers as have been or may be established by Annual Conferences, as their organs, shall be elected by the General Conference, whenever this is the desire of the representatives of those papers.

The committee, referring to a former report in commendation of the Book Agent, and to a report of the Committee on Sunday-schools commending the editorial as well as other services of the Sunday-school Secretary, beg leave to close and crown their work by offering the following resolution—viz. :

Resolved, That the eminent abilities and faithful services of the Rev. Thomas O. Summers, D.D., Book Editor and Editor of the *Christian Advocate*, are gratefully recognized by the General Conference.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. JOHNSON, Chairman.

A. H. Redford, on the nomination of W. C. Johnson, was elected Book Agent; Thomas O. Summers, on the nomination of J. E. Evans, Editor of Books and *Christian Advocate*; A. G. Haygood, on the nomination of R. A. Young, Sunday-school Secretary; A. L. P. Green, Thompson Anderson, W. H. Morgan, Dempsey Weaver, Thomas D. Fite, James S. Lithgow, James E. Evans, P. A. Peterson, John H. Linn, were, on the nomination of J. E. Edwards, elected as members of the Book Committee.

A. Hunter nominated W. C. Johnson as editor of the *Western Methodist*; J. E. Evans nominated F. M. Kennedy as editor, and J. W. Burke as assistant editor of the *Southern Christian Advocate*. They were elected.

C. I. Vandeventer nominated D. R. McAnally, and W. M. Leftwich nominated J. M. Boland, as editor of the *St. Louis Christian Advocate*.

C. Pope moved the previous question—the call was sustained—and D. R. McAnally was elected.

H. V. Philpott nominated I. G. John as editor of the *Texas Christian Advocate*; and B. R. Johnson nominated W. B. Parsons as editor of the *Pacific Methodist*; C. G. Andrews nominated L. Parker as editor of the *New Orleans Christian Advocate*. They were all elected.

J. B. A. Ahrens was nominated by the Committee as editor of German papers, and E. N. S. Blogg as assistant editor. They were accordingly elected; and the following were elected the Committee on German Publications: F. Vordenbaumen, John A. Pauly, and J. B. A. Ahrens.

Reports Nos. 3 and 5 of the Committee on Books and Periodicals were taken up, and adopted. The words “while we are not responsible for its utterances” being substituted for “while we cannot indorse,” in the latter. (See pages 448, 449, 470, 471.)

Report No. 3 of the Committee on Missions was taken up, and amended, by striking out the words “at its next session,” and substituting the words “during the next quadriennium;” and the words “from San Francisco to China, and back to San Francisco,” and inserting “of his visit to China.” The report, as thus amended, was adopted. (See page 469.)

On motion of A. R. Winfield and W. G. E. Cunyningham, it was *Resolved*, That we request the continuance of the Rev. John Harrell as Superintendent of the Indian Mission Conference.

Report No. 4 of the Committee on Missions was taken up, and adopted. (See page 469.)

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Boundaries was taken up, together with the minority report, deprecating the adoption of the first item—transferring a portion of the Baltimore Conference to the Western Virginia Conference.

J. E. Evans moved the previous question—the call was sustained.

The vote was taken, and the minority report was adopted as a substitute for the first item.

Items 2, 3, and 4 were adopted.

Item 5 was read. On motion of A. Hunter, “Little Rock” was substituted for “Trinity,” and the item was adopted.

Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 were adopted.

Article 11 was read, discussed, and not adopted.

Pending the action on this report, the Pastoral Address of the Bishops was read by Bishop Doggett, as follows:

PASTORAL ADDRESS.

To the Ministers and Members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Greeting :

DEAR BRETHREN:—We have been requested by the General Conference now in session to present to you, in their behalf, a pastoral address. In compliance with this request, and in discharge of this duty, we salute you in the name of our common Lord, and in the words of the great apostle to the Gentiles: "Grace to you, and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ."

We render devout thanks to Almighty God for the signal displays of his grace to us as a Church during the past four years in the enlargement of our coast, in the increase of our numbers, in our material prosperity, and in that agreement in the faith, that unity in the Spirit, and in that harmony and tranquillity which have everywhere pervaded our Zion. Extensive revivals of religion have crowned the labors of our preachers, and the life-giving energy of the gospel in the conversion of sinners and in the sanctification of believers, has been seldom more apparent amongst us than during that period.

In these facts we have abundant evidence of the continued power and presence of the Holy Ghost in our ministrations, and that the boon of Wesleyan Methodism, as we received it from our fathers, has not been forfeited in our hands. Regarding it as the purest existing type of Christianity, and as a priceless heritage of doctrine and discipline committed to our keeping, we rejoice to believe that we retain it in all its essential features.

In this gratifying review, however, we find nothing to flatter our pride, but much to foster our humility, to awaken sentiments of repentance, and to cherish purposes of amendment. Our piety, our self-sacrifice, our Christian enterprise, have not been equal to our growth, much less to our standards, and to our time-honored ecclesiastical landmarks. Fundamentally correct in our views of scriptural truth, and, in the main, commendably consistent in our conduct, we have departed, in some instances, from the simplicity of the gospel as we first received it. An inordinate love of the world in the forms of wealth, of fashion, and of amusement, has largely diffused itself amongst our people, and corrupted their spiritual integrity. The peculiar institutions and usages of Methodism have been frequently neglected or abandoned, and a relaxation of wholesome discipline has diminished our strength and impaired our testimony against the vices of the age in which we live.

To these tendencies, to which we are perpetually exposed by the pressure of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and to these actual

departures from "the old paths," we earnestly call your prayerful attention. In these respects we have encouraging reasons to believe that there is life enough in the Church, and a sufficiently high consciousness of the divine destiny of Methodism, to induce a return to its unalterable requisitions, and a maintenance of its distinctive character before the world.

We have been instructed by the General Conference to urge upon your consideration several subjects of grave importance, especially at the present time. Without, therefore, encumbering this address any farther with our own suggestions, we proceed to occupy its remaining portion with remarks upon those topics which have been referred to us.

1. It cannot be disguised that family religion has been sadly neglected in many of the households of our people. Our own observations confirm the too general complaint on this subject. The duty of offering the morning and evening sacrifice of prayer and praise upon the family altar has not only the sanction of scriptural authority, of the constitution of the domestic relations, and of the practice of the Christian Church in all ages, but it has been uniformly recognized and enjoined by Methodist economy, as an indispensable exponent of *consecration to God*, and a rich and influential means of grace. It is hallowing in its effects upon parents, children, and servants—enduring in its results; and it transmits to posterity, by the agency of the family organization, the legacy of the faith, and the habits and associations, of genuine piety. It transforms the household into a Church replete with blessing, and capable of indefinite succession. Such was God's original and unrepealed command in all the generations of Israel. Such is his ordained method of giving stability and currency to his cause in the earth, and such is the grand bequest which heads of families are required to leave to their legitimate successors in the spiritual Canaan.

2. In addition to the instituted means of grace, the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is amply supplied with those which are denominated prudential; which, though they claim no express scriptural sanction, have been adopted and authorized by our Church as eminently calculated to promote a growth in grace. Amongst these are the class-meeting, the love-feast, and Church Conference.

With respect to the class-meeting, we have been requested by the present General Conference to define the action of the General Conference of 1866, which abolished that part of the then existing rule, which made attendance a test of membership in the Church. So far as it falls within our province to respond to this request, we reply that,

while the penalty for neglect of class-meeting was abrogated, the institution itself was left in full force, to stand upon its merits and its history, and is obligatory upon every member of the Church. And we take occasion to add that, apart from the divinely-appointed means of grace, no institution amongst us is so conducive to the Christian life; and we exhort our members not to forsake the assembling of themselves together in this capacity.

The love-feast is so precious a peculiarity of Methodism, so interwoven with its happiest memories, so full of gracious resources, and so generally recognized in these aspects, that we deem it unnecessary to enforce its observance with any special formality, except to say that the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, cannot afford to dispense with so valuable a portion of her inheritance as the class-meeting and the love-feast.

The Church Conference was, in our judgment, wisely conceived. Judiciously managed, it subserves a most useful purpose in our administration, by distributing its duties amongst the membership, perfecting its operations by detail, eliciting their efforts, and awakening their interest in Church affairs and benevolent enterprises. Properly conducted, and zealously enforced, it cannot fail to impart compactness and completeness to our system, and largely to develop the social power of the Church for good. We therefore enjoin the regular and persevering observance of it upon our pastors and people.

3. An explicit utterance was given, by order of the last General Conference, in our Pastoral Address, on the subject of worldly amusements. We now repeat that utterance. We abate none of its teachings with respect either to the manifest inconsistency of such indulgences with the spirit and profession of the gospel, or the peril which they bring to the souls of men. Their multiplied and insidious forms are a source of perpetual temptation and damage, and are denounced by the word of God, and by that part of our General Rules which forbids "the taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus." This denunciation is explicit and comprehensive. "The name of the Lord Jesus," in this connection, is a decisive test, and we are content to leave the issue to its sovereign arbitrament. Amongst those indulgences which cannot stand this solemn test is the modern dance, both in its private and public exhibitions utterly opposed to the genius of Christianity as taught by us. When persisted in, it is a justifiable ground of judicial action by the Church authorities.

4. The mild but firm administration of discipline is an integral and essential part of our economy. The purity and integrity of the body

of Christ must be preserved at all hazards, so that neither heresy in doctrine nor corruptness in life be tolerated for a moment, lest they increase unto more ungodliness. There is a growing tendency, we fear, in this direction, and we take the liberty of speaking a seasonable word on this behalf. Our legislation is sufficient on this subject. It only remains that its processes be faithfully followed, according to the provisions of our Discipline, by those intrusted with its execution. A solemn responsibility rests upon the respective authorities of the Church to see that its sanctity be fully maintained. But we would remark that our laws are not inexorable, and that no process should be served without taking all the preliminary measures to secure the amendment of offenders. Herein consist the safety and the force of their execution. The times imperatively demand that the moral effect of Christian discipline should vindicate itself against those loose ideas which merge disciplinary distinctions into a mere time-serving policy.

5. Congregational singing, as contrasted with what are called operatic performances, has been brought to our notice by the General Conference. Abuses have undoubtedly been introduced into this branch of worship amongst us. The extraordinary cultivation of musical science in our day, and its fascinating influence upon the esthetic elements of human nature, have precipitated a crisis upon the order and simplicity of Christian worship in this particular, alike subversive of its inspiration and its edification. We are not wise enough to dictate the precise limitations of improvement in sacred song, but we do not hesitate to say that no music should be introduced into public worship that is not decidedly devotional; that no tunes should be sung to hymns announced by our preachers in which the congregation cannot participate, and that the pastors of our Churches, in virtue of their office, have general supervision of this, as well as of any other, department of public service. We give it also as our judgment that wherever instrumental music is practiced in our congregations, preludes and interludes should be avoided, since they intermit the singing, and they consume the time allotted to the service.

6. The last topic referred to us was the injunction of private prayer, fasting, and reading of the Holy Scriptures, upon our members. So obvious and so essential are these duties, as the conditions of experimental godliness, and coming so entirely within the sphere of pastoral instruction, that no specific deliverance is demanded of us. There can be no healthy, no robust type of piety, without their observance. We remit them, therefore, to the enlightened understanding of the

Church, not doubting that they commend themselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

And now, beloved brethren, we "commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them that are sanctified." And may "we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive: but speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ; from whom the whole body, fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."

(Signed.)

ROBERT PAINE,
GEORGE F. PIERCE,
H. H. KAVANAUGH,
WILLIAM M. WIGHTMAN,
E. M. MARVIN,
D. S. DOGGETT,
H. N. MCTYEIRE,
JOHN C. KEENER.

After the reading of the Address, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, 1. That this General Conference approves the utterances of our Bishops in their Pastoral Address.

Resolved, 2. That the Book Editor be, and he is hereby, instructed to insert the Address in an Appendix to our Discipline.

Resolved, 3. That our pastors be, and are hereby, instructed to read the Address to their congregations.

Bishop Marvin then came forward and read, in behalf of the Bishops, the following communication, referring to the liabilities of the Church in Washington City:

COMMUNICATION IN REFERENCE TO THE CHURCH IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

To the Members of the General Conference:

DEAR BRETHREN:—Our attention has been called to the financial condition of our Church in Washington City, and from a consideration of the facts in the case, we deem the matter of sufficient importance to demand your attention at this time.

Our brethren there undertook, soon after the war, when they were few in number, to build a house which should meet, not their own needs only, but also the wants of our people who might have occasion to visit the national capital. For this purpose they made an outlay far beyond their own ability to meet, and up to this time have been carrying a burden of debt too grievous to be borne. While the house represents us respectably, yet, considered as a representative building at the great central point of the whole country, it is far from being extravagant.

In carrying this great burden of debt our brethren have been compelled to look abroad for aid; but up to this time the response has been sufficient only to meet accruing interest, and reduce the debt by a very small amount.

This debt is a distressing incubus upon the local Church, which bears the weight of it, making development and progress almost impossible. Indeed, it is matter of very painful solicitude with those immediately concerned.

Let it be remembered that this debt was created in the interest of the Church at large, and that it meets a demand which all feel to be imperative. It supplies our own people visiting Washington City with the ministry of the Church of their choice. Let it be remembered, also, that our brethren there contributed freely at the first, and have now patiently, for some years, borne up under this most trying embarrassment.

We commend to you, and to the Church through you, any effort that may be made for relief in this case.

On motion of J. E. Edwards, the communication was received and unanimously indorsed by the Conference.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, the session was extended fifteen minutes.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the Conference resolved to meet at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Action on Report No. 2 on Boundaries was resumed.

Items 12 and 13 were read and adopted.

The report, as amended, was then adopted as a whole. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES, NO. 2.

Your Committee on Boundaries would respectfully beg leave to submit their Report No. 2, as follows:

We recommend—

1. That the boundaries between the Baltimore and Western Virginia Conferences remain as now established.

2. That the memorial for a change of boundaries between the Baltimore and Holston Conferences be granted, and that the same be so changed as to run a straight line from Jacksonville, in Floyd county, to Central Depot, in Montgomery county, so as to embrace the territory known as the New Hope Circuit, in the Holston Conference.

3. That your committee deem it inexpedient to grant the memorial from Elizabeth City and other Quarterly Conferences, at this time, asking that the Virginia Conference be divided, and they recommend that the prayer be not granted.

4. That the Prestonburg, Big Sandy, and Piketon Circuits be transferred from the Kentucky Conference to the Western Virginia Conference.

5. That the territory of Louisiana Conference, lying in the north-west corner of the State, north of Soda Lake, and west of Red River, be transferred and added to Little Rock Conference.

6. That the memorial to transfer a part of Attala county, Mississippi, to the Mississippi Conference be not granted.

7. That the memorial to change the name of the Mississippi Conference to that of the "South Mississippi" Conference be not concurred in.

8. That the name of Trinity Conference be, and the same is hereby, changed to that of "North Texas" Conference.

9. That the words "Island Creek" be substituted in the place of the words "Battle Creek," where the same occurs in the description of the boundary line between the Holston and North Alabama Conferences, so as to make "Island Creek," instead of "Battle Creek," the south-western boundary line of the Holston Conference.

10. That the memorial from West Texas Conference, asking to have the Colorado River made the eastern boundary of said Conference, be not granted.

11. [This item was not adopted.]

12. That the "Catawba Circuit" be, and the same is hereby, declared to be in and form a part of the Holston Conference.

13. The memorials from White River, Arkansas, and St. Louis Conferences, respectively, were, by the petitioners, withdrawn, by the consent of the committee, and hence no action on them will be had.

Fraternally submitted.

R. ALEXANDER, Chairman.

R. E. ANDERSON, Secretary.

Report No. 3 of the same committee was then called up. Item 1 was read and adopted.

Item 2 was read. J. H. McLean moved to amend by inserting the word "not."

Pending the discussion, the hour of adjournment arrived.

Bishop Marvin came forward and stated that he wished his name removed from the committee of editorial supervision of the *Southern Review*.

Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by Bishop Kavanaugh.

Monday Afternoon, May 25, 1874.

Conference met at the hour appointed, Bishop Keener in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by B. R. Johnson.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Paine took the chair.

On motion of P. A. Peterson,

Resolved, That the Bishops be authorized to estimate their traveling expenses incurred in attending the Annual Conferences of their respective Districts, and apportion the same among the several Conferences of said Districts, on the basis of their claim on said Conferences for salary.

On motion of R. A. Young and J. E. Evans,

Resolved, That all other communities pay the traveling expenses of the Bishops serving them.

The following was read and laid on the table:

Whereas, the experience of the last few years demonstrates that an aggregate margin of at least ten per cent. upon the apportionment of the Bishops' salaries to the several Annual Conferences is necessary to provide against probable failure to meet the full amount allowed; therefore,

Resolved, That each Annual Conference be requested to add at least ten per cent. to the amount assessed to the Conference in making their apportionment within the Conference.

J. E. EVANS,

A. H. REDFORD.

Report No. 3 of the Committee on Boundaries, on which Conference adjourned this morning, was taken up.

H. A. C. Walker moved to lay the motion of J. H. McLean on the table. This motion prevailed.

The second item was rejected. It is as follows:

We recommend that the memorial from the East Texas Conference,

concerning the boundary line between that Conference and Trinity be granted, so that the portion of Harrison county now included in the Trinity Conference, and so much of the counties of Upshur, Smith, Vanzandt, and Kaufman, as shall be required to make a straight line from the north-west corner of Harrison county to said point on the Trinity River be, and the same is, transferred to and made a part of the East Texas Conference.

All the other items were severally adopted. The report, as amended, was adopted. [See pp. 505, 506.]

On motion of J. E. Edwards, Report No. 1 of the Committee on Boundaries was taken up, and item 2, establishing a Conference in Montana, was reconsidered. The item was stricken out; and, on motion of W. M. Rush, the Territory of Montana was added to the Denver Conference. [See page 409.]

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Finance, and the two minority reports, were called up and read.

After considerable discussion, all three reports were laid on the table.

Report No. 7 of the Committee on Episcopacy, on the death of Bishops Andrew and Early, was presented by J. E. Evans from that committee, and was read in the profound silence of the Conference, and adopted by a rising vote. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, NO. 7—ON THE DEATH
OF BISHOPS ANDREW AND EARLY.

The Committee on Episcopacy beg leave to offer the following tribute to the memory of Bishops Andrew and Early:

It is with feelings of heart-felt sorrow that we behold no longer the noble form of Bishop Andrew as one of our number in the sessions of the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South. He has always stood in the front rank of its ministers and officers from its organization. Pure in character; devout and consecrated in spirit; self-sacrificing and laborious in every good work; able, prompt, kind, and impartial in official administration—he commended himself as an example worthy of all emulation. May his mantle fall on us who survive him. He died as he lived. As an extended obituary of the Bishop has been already published, it is not necessary to say more here.

Bishop John Early departed this life in Lynchburg, Va., Nov. 5, 1873, closing a long life of active, useful ministerial service in the faith of that Jesus whom he had preached to hundreds of thousands, and in the sure and certain hope of eternal life through the merits of that Christ. The elements of his strong character were very observ-

able—clear common sense, masterly views, faith in God and in himself, indomitable force of will, and a tireless industry—so long as health and strength allowed him an active participation in the affairs of the Church. He was one of the links which united the present generation of Methodists with the fathers. His name is historic. We magnify the grace of God, which sustained him so long in great labors, and cheered his declining years with abundant consolations.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman, *pro tem.*

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted by a rising vote:

RESOLUTION ON THE VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY.

Whereas, we regard the establishment and endowment of institutions of learning, under the control of the Church, as of vital importance to the welfare of our people; and that these objects address themselves to our convictions, and appeal to every principle of humanity and religion, and call for the most liberal devising, and for the most generous and complete consecration; and whereas, the example of the wealthy, in the bestowal of their means for the promotion of a liberal culture, and for the support of educational institutions of a high grade, is worthy of imitation and hearty commendation; and whereas, we have heard with pleasure of the munificent gift of Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt, of New York, of over half a million of dollars to build and endow a university under the control of the M. E. Church, South; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we are thankful to God, from whom is every good gift and every perfect gift, for this instance of enlarged beneficence; that we tender to Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt the expression of our appreciation of his noble generosity; and that we will ever pray that the richest blessings of heaven may rest upon him.

LINUS PARKER,
C. G. ANDREWS.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Whereas, the forms found in our Book of Discipline, on pages 170, 171, 172, for wills and bequests, or gifts and grants, to the Agent of the Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, for its use, etc., to be controlled by said Agent, do not provide for a Trustee after the death or removal of said Agent, and in all such cases the Church is forced into a court of equity to divest the title and vest it in Trustees; therefore,

Resolved, That said forms be so amended as to read, item 1, "I give and devise the following (here follows a description of the property) to —, Agent of the Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, *and to his successors in office*, and its use to be controlled," etc. And in item 2, "Know all men, by these presents, that I (giving name), for and in consideration of the love I bear for the cause of Christ, and from an earnest desire to promote his heritage on earth, do give and grant, and, by these presents, convey, unto —, Agent of the Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, *and to his successors in office*, for the use," etc.

F. W. EARNEST,
A. H. REDFORD,
T. POLK.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

RESOLUTION ON THE LIFE OF BISHOP SOULE.

Whereas, the Committee on Episcopacy, at the General Conference of 1870, submitted a report (No. 4, page 254 of said Journal), which reads as follows:

"The committee having been instructed to nominate one of our Bishops, or some other competent person, to write the life of the late venerable Bishop Soule, and it appearing that Bishop Soule himself expressed a desire that, should his life be written, Bishop Wightman might be selected for the work; and whereas, the committee believe that this desire is very general; therefore,

"Resolved, That Bishop W. M. Wightman be nominated to the General Conference to write the life of Bishop Soule."

And whereas, it is due to Methodism in general, and to the *M. E. Church, South*, in particular, as well as to the memory of one of our greatest and best men, that his life be written, to add an interesting, instructive, and valuable work to the literature of the *M. E. Church, South*; therefore,

Resolved, That this General Conference would respectfully request Bishop Wightman to state to this body how far he has progressed in the work, and what difficulties, if any, he encounters in collating suitable material.

DANIEL MORSE,
W. G. VEAL,
I. G. JOHN.

Bishop Wightman stated that for lack of materials, as well as from pressure of official engagements, he had not been able to do any thing

in the way of preparing a memoir. He had so notified the Committee on Episcopacy. He thought that the most that could now be done was the preparation of a monograph.

The Conference then proceeded to vote for the place of holding the next session of the General Conference. W. H. Potter nominated Atlanta, Ga.; T. Polk nominated St. Louis, Mo.; J. E. Edwards nominated Richmond, Va.

Atlanta received 91 votes. On motion of W. M. Rush, the vote was made unanimous.

On motion of W. M. Leftwich, the first Wednesday in May, 1878, was fixed upon as the time for opening the next session.

A resolution of C. I. Vandeventer, and others, in reference to the division of the report on fraternal greetings, was offered, read, and laid on the table. It is as follows:

Resolved, That so much of the report of the Committee on Fraternal Relations with the Methodist Episcopal Church, adopted by this General Conference on Saturday, May 23, 1874, as relates to the history and ecclesiastical position of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, be considered substantially the basis of instruction to the Commission provided for in one of the resolutions of said report, and that the remainder of the report be the reply of this body to the *fraternal greetings* of the delegates from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

C. I. VANDEVENTER,
SAMUEL REGESTER,
M. R. JONES,
NELSON HEAD,
L. J. DAVIES,
W. M. RUSH,
JOHN S. MARTIN,
H. A. BOURLAND,
J. H. PRITCHETT,
E. K. MILLER,
N. SCARRITT.

A motion of A. H. Redford, to reconsider the vote by which the Conference resolved, when it adjourned, to adjourn to meet to-morrow at 8:30 A.M., did not prevail.

W. Milnes moved that the Conference take a recess till 8:30 o'clock to-night. This motion was laid on the table.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology and benediction by the Bishop.

Tuesday Morning, May 26, 1874.

Conference met at the hour appointed, Bishop Paine in the chair.

C. I. Vandeventer conducted religious worship.

The Minutes were read and approved.

A communication from the Methodist Preachers' Meeting, in Cincinnati, kindly recognizing the courtesy shown to the delegates of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who bore fraternal greetings to the Conference, was presented, and read by the Secretary.

A communication, from Methodist and Presbyterian ministers, of New Albany, gratefully recognizing the pulpit services of members of the General Conference, during the session, was presented by E. W. Sehon, and read to the Conference.

The following resolutions were then offered by the Secretary, read, and adopted by a rising vote:

Resolved, 1. That while the Conference mourns the absence, on account of death, of two of the chief pastors of the Church, it is devoutly thankful that all the rest have been permitted to be present, and to preside at this session; the Conference duly appreciates the patience, kindness, and ability with which the Bishops have discharged their difficult and onerous duties, and fervently prays that their "bow may abide in strength," and that, at the next session of the General Conference, they may all be in their place, at the head of a prosperous Connection, honored and revered by all—ministers and people—whom they serve in the gospel of Christ.

Resolved, 2. That the thanks of this Conference are due, and are hereby tendered, to the ministers and officers of the Methodist Churches in Louisville, for the manifold and courteous attentions bestowed upon the members during the session. Their wants have been anticipated, and every thing has been done to meet their wishes and to minister to their comfort. "The Lord recompense their work, and a full reward be given them of the Lord."

Resolved, 3. That the thanks of the General Conference are due, and are hereby tendered, to the authorities and citizens of Louisville, for the elegant and bountiful hospitality extended to the members during their session in this beautiful city.

Resolved, 4. That this Conference duly appreciates the Christian courtesy of the pastors and Churches of Louisville, New Albany, Jeffersonville, etc., in placing their houses of worship at the disposal of its members during the session, and heartily prays that peace may be within their walls, and prosperity within their palaces.

Resolved, 5. That the thanks of the Conference are due, and are hereby tendered, to the Presiding Elder of the Louisville District, the Rev. Dr. Sehon, and the pastors of the several charges, for the highly satisfactory manner in which they have apportioned the pulpit and platform services of the present session, and for their great personal kindness and urbanity toward the members of this Conference.

On motion of A. H. Redford and J. S. Lithgow:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due, and are hereby tendered, to Professor Thomas O. Summers, jr., for the efficient manner in which he has reported the proceedings of the General Conference.

The following resolutions were also adopted:

Resolved, That we render heartiest thanks to our Father in heaven for his gracious presence with us, and his providential care of us, during the session of our Conference, and that we humbly pray the Divine blessing to rest abundantly on all concerned, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

H. A. C. WALKER.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Conference are hereby tendered to railroad and steamboat companies for privileges extended to the members and visitors of the Conference, at its present session.

Resolved, That the thanks of the General Conference are due, and are hereby tendered, to Mr. Ed. Coleman, who has so faithfully and patiently served us as postmaster, during our session.

S. H. BROWNE,
A. A. GILBERT,
J. E. RYLAND,
G. M. WINTON.

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Conference are due, and are hereby tendered, to the newspaper press of this city, for its numerous courtesies during our present session.

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Conference are due, and are hereby tendered, to Messrs. Wrampelmeier & Co., wholesale furniture dealers and manufacturers, for the use of the beautiful furniture so kindly and gratuitously furnished for the use of our Bishops and Secretaries, during the session of this Conference.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Conference are also due, and are hereby tendered, to the Masonic Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and Mr. Daniel Bennett, for the use of the other tables and furniture which they have so generously lent this Conference, and the delegations composing this Conference.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Conference are due, and are hereby tendered, to the Secretaries for the faithful discharge of their onerous duties.

A memorial from F. M. Featherstun, of Vicksburg District, and others, referring to the children of the Church, was presented, read, and, on motion of J. B. McFerrin, was laid on the table among the unfinished business. It is as follows:

MEMORIAL FROM VICKSBURG DISTRICT, MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.

To the Bishops and Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, now in session at Louisville, Kentucky:

HONORED AND BELOVED FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—Your memorialists would respectfully represent that they are members in good standing in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; that they love the doctrines and discipline of said Church; and that their constant and united prayer to the Great Head of the Church is that all your deliberations may be so guided as to be owned and blessed to the great extension and building up of the Saviour's kingdom on the earth.

Your memorialists would further represent that they have been greatly interested in the deliberations of your Conference—in the subjects discussed and conclusions reached. We would, however, respectfully call your attention, and request your action, in some way, to secure with greater certainty the children of the Church—those born to parents now, or who were, in its pale; those that are ours, not only by birth, but by baptism. It is a fact, patent to all, that our Church suffers loss yearly in the departure of the children from the Church of their fathers.

Your memorialists are of the opinion that where there are settled communities, or an old established society, a larger share in the services of the sanctuary could be accorded to the laity, old and young, in the congregations, greatly to the prosperity and advancement of our beloved Zion; and they would respectfully suggest that responsive readings of the Scriptures, especially the Psalms, with the Apostles' Creed, and the Ten Commandments, would, in their opinion, have a tendency to increase an interest in the services, where now is listlessness; would fill seats and pews in our Churches now vacant; would attract and keep the children who now are absent; would secure seriousness and attention, where now, sometimes, idle gossiping and whisperings, perhaps, are indulged. In fine, would give something for all to do. For the lack of this, your memorialists

believe we, as a Church, hitherto have suffered loss—have been but the great supply-source to other Churches; that we have labored, and others have entered into our labors.

Your memorialists do not assume to advise, much less to dictate, on this subject, but would most respectfully request that your attention be directed to this subject, and that such action be taken as your experience and wisdom may suggest, and your petitioners would ever pray, etc.

N. B.—We sign the above as expressive of our sentiments, and believe them to be the opinions and wishes of most, if not all, of our members in Vicksburg, Mississippi, and elsewhere, of whom we have knowledge.

F. M. FEATHERSTUN, P. E. of Vicksburg District,
(Per R. D. HOWE—at his request.)

JOSIAH BANCROFT, Pastor.

R. D. HOWE, Trustee.

J. A. PEALE, Trustee and Steward.

SAMUEL G. WORTHINGTON, Eggs Point.

H. SHANNON.

A. E. ADAMS.

J. D. MILES, Trustee and Steward.

J. E. GIBBS, Steward.

WILLIAM H. NELSON, Steward.

JOSEPH GENELLA, Trustee and Steward.

WILLIAM CRUTCHER, Trustee and Steward.

J. W. VICK, Trustee.

J. C. NEWMAN.

THOMAS HACKETT.

VICKSBURG STATION, MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE, }
Vicksburg, Miss., May 22, 1874. }

The following resolutions were then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That \$50 be taken from the assessment made to the Columbia Conference, for the Bishops' fund, and the same added to the assessment to the Pacific Conference.

E. K. MILLER,

GEORGE SIM,

B. R. JOHNSON.

Resolved, 1. That, as delegates of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, we reflect, with thanksgiving and hope toward God, on the increasing disposition of the more Christianized governments to settle national disputes by arbitration rather than by the sword.

Resolved, 2. That whatever of enactment, or administration, in civil governments tends to make "the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our Lord and his Christ," should have the sympathy and manifest support of the followers of the Prince of peace.

E. E. WILEY, Holston Conference.

SIDI H. BROWNE, South Carolina.

SAMUEL ANTHONY, South Georgia.

JOHN H. KINSLER, (Lay) South Carolina.

NELSON HEAD, Baltimore.

W. H. BOBBITT, North Carolina.

C. I. VANDEVENTER, Missouri.

GEORGE M. JONES, (Lay) West St. Louis.

W. F. COOK, North Georgia.

W. M. LEFTWICH, St. Louis.

J. W. FITCH, Kentucky.

J. W. WHITTEN, North Alabama.

E. W. SEHON, Louisville.

JOSEPH B. WEST, Tennessee.

A. H. REDFORD, Louisville.

J. HAMILTON, Alabama.

A. A. MORRISON, Western.

H. F. JOHNSON, Mississippi.

SAMUEL WOODBERRY, Florida.

ANDREW HUNTER, Little Rock.

L. PARKER, Louisiana.

I. G. JOHN, Texas.

W. G. CONNOR, North-west Texas.

JAMES G. WALKER, West Texas.

R. C. CLARK, (Lay) North Mississippi.

JOHN E. RYLAND, West St. Louis.

HORATIO V. PHILPOTT, Texas.

L. S. REED, Virginia.

J. W. KELLY, South Carolina.

J. M. BINKLEY, Trinity.

JOHN ADAMS, East Texas.

L. V. GREER, East Texas.

J. R. MOSS, Kentucky.

TRUSTEN POLK, St. Louis.

R. J. MORGAN, Memphis.

MILTON BROWN, Memphis.

JOHN MOSS, Memphis.

A. R. WINFIELD, Little Rock Conference.
W. P. BARTON, North Mississippi.
GEORGE SIM, Pacific.
I. L. BURROW, Arkansas.
J. D. ANTHONY, North Alabama.
T. S. WADE, Western Virginia.
G. M. WINTON, West St. Louis.
M. R. JONES, Illinois.
B. R. JOHNSON, Columbia.
FRANK E. ADAMS, Los Angeles.

The following resolution, offered by Bishop Marvin, unanimously passed by the Board of Missions, May 25, 1874; was presented and read, and the request was granted:

Resolved, That we request the General Conference, now in session, to authorize the Board of Missions, if they shall find it necessary, to elect another Secretary, and that the Board shall have authority to fix his salary and prescribe his duties.

(Signed.)

JOHN B. McFERRIN,
Secretary Board of Missions.

Report No. 5 of the Committee on Sunday-schools was called up, read, amended by inserting the words "it is recommended that the," and adopted. (See page 470.)

Report No. 5 of the Committee on Revisal was taken up.

Item 12, referring to the arrangement of the Discipline in numbered paragraphs, was stricken out, and, on motion of H. A. C. Walker, the Book Editor and Sunday-school Secretary were instructed to prepare a copy of the Discipline, if practicable, so paragraphed, to report to the next General Conference.

Item 16, referring to orphans' homes, was, on motion of P. A. Peterson, laid on the table.

Item 17, recommending the insertion of a foot-note to the General Rule concerning improper diversions was read, and, on motion of P. A. Peterson, it was stricken out, and the following resolution was offered and adopted, as a substitute:

Resolved, That the law of the Church as contained in the General Rules, if faithfully executed, is sufficient to correct all evils growing out of dancing, attending dancing-parties, circuses, and theater entertainments, and such like.

The report, as amended, was adopted. (See pages 511-514.)

The resolution of M. S. Andrews and others, in regard to Presiding

Elders' Districts, laid on the table under the rules, Monday morning, May 18, was taken up, read, and, on motion of C. I. Vandeventer, was laid on the table.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the North-west Texas Conference shall be bounded as follows—viz.: Beginning on the Trinity River, at south-east corner of Leon county, and running thence with south line of Leon, Robertson, Milam, and Williamson counties, to north-west corner of Travis county; thence due west to the San Antonio and Fort Mason road; thence with said road to Fort Mason; thence due north to the Colorado River; thence up said river with its meanderings to the Big Spring; thence due north to the State line; thence east with State line to Red River; thence down said river with its meanderings to a point due north of and opposite to the head of West Fork of Trinity River; thence south to the head of said fork of Trinity River; thence down said river with its meanderings to the place of beginning.

J. G. WALKER,

I. G. JOHN,

W. G. VEAL,

J. M. BINKLEY.

The following communication, from the venerable Lovick Pierce, was presented, read, and, on motion of the Secretary, was received standing, and the Secretary was instructed to spread it on the Journal:

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, May 26, 1874.

To the Bishops and Members of the General Conference:

BELOVED BRETHREN:—By the good providence of God I have been enabled to attend this, the Fifteenth General Conference, and here closes my membership in this grand council of Methodism.

My salutatory was lean of any thing but heart, and my valedictory I would not present if it was not all heart. Our parting feelings, in as far as future General Conferences are concerned, are very different. You see other General Conferences coming this side your grave, while I see my grave coming in between this and '78. I have, however, endeavored to serve my generation by the will of God, and now I resign all to those who are to come after me. I came here hoping to effect some changes in our practical itinerant pastorate, and in the enforcement of discipline. These I intended as my memorials in the 60th year of my life. They have all perished on the coast of a perilous travel. Of course, my friends believed it wiser to kill off these projections of mine than to adopt them. So I go home disap-

pointed—go with convictions deep-seated as ever. The necessity for these changes is only a question of time. You have overpaid me in loving kindnesses, and all I could ever desire is to feel that I deserve them—not because I have lived a long time, but because I have labored a great deal—once with marked success; of late years with much less visible results. I was, in the best Methodist sense of it, an effective preacher for sixty-seven years—which Dr. Punshon, of England, said, in my room in Columbus, March, 1873, was the longest effective history among Methodist preachers. I ask you to give thanks to God for all his mercies bestowed on me, and pray for my safe arrival at home and in heaven. I am too feeble to ascend the stairs again.

A loving farewell.

L. PIERCE.

After the reception of the communication the Conference united in singing:

Together let us sweetly live—
Together let us die,
And each a starry crown receive,
And reign above the sky.

Affecting remarks were made by E. W. Sehon, T. B. Sargent, and the presiding Bishop, whose filial expressions were very touching, and who tendered thanks to the Conference for its testimonials of regard to his venerable father.

On motion of J. O. A. Clark, the Conference united in fervent prayer for him, led by the senior Bishop.

Report No. 8 of the Committee on Itinerancy, and the report of the minority, were taken up and read.

After considerable discussion, the report of the minority was adopted. (See pages 503-505.)

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Revisal was taken up, and read.

Item 2 was amended by adding a question, to be numbered 21: "What is doing for the cause of education?" Also the 15th question by inserting "or for readmission."

Item 4, on the eligibility of laymen to the Annual Conference, was stricken out.

Pending action on the report, on motion of J. E. Evans, the time of adjournment was indefinitely extended.

Report No. 2, as amended, was then adopted. (See pages 423-427.)

Report No. 6 of the Committee on Sunday-schools was taken up, discussed, and laid on the table. (See pages 506, 507.)

The following resolutions were then offered, read, and adopted:

RESOLUTIONS ON FRATERNAL RELATIONS WITH THE METHODIST
EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Whereas, the discussions and votes of this Conference on the subject of fraternal relations with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and its cognate subjects, present the appearance of essential differences which do not exist; therefore,

Resolved, That upon the subject of fraternal relations with the Methodist Episcopal Church, upon a proper basis, this Conference is a unit.

Resolved, That we are also a unit upon the propriety of appointing a Commission empowered to meet a like Commission from the Methodist Episcopal Church, to settle all questions of difficulty between us, and that such settlement is essential to complete fraternity.

Resolved, That the only points of difference between us on this whole subject are the best methods of accomplishing this desired end.

E. E. WILEY,
S. REGESTER,
JOHN S. MARTIN,
J. E. EVANS,
J. HAMILTON,
A. R. WINFIELD,
A. W. WILSON,
NELSON HEAD.

Report No. 3 of the Committee on Revisal was taken up, and read.

Item 8 was, on motion of J. E. Evans, amended by the addition of the following:

“And the holder shall be regarded as having withdrawn from the Church. A member presenting a certificate shall be held responsible, to the Society receiving said certificate, for his conduct from the date of the certificate.”

The report, as amended, was adopted. (See pages 438, 439.)

Report No. 4 of the Committee on Revisal was taken up.

Item 3, in regard to holding love-feasts with open doors, was stricken out.

Item 8, favoring changes in the baptismal office, was laid on the table.

Item 10, favoring the insertion of Scripture proof-texts to the Articles of Religion, was stricken out.

The report, as amended, was adopted. (See pages 471-474.)

The following resolutions were then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, 1. That the Book Agent and Book Editor be, and are hereby, instructed to issue the new Discipline and Journal of the present session of the General Conference, as soon as practicable.

Resolved, 2. That the Sunday-school Secretary is requested to assist the Book Editor in the preparation of the Discipline for the press.

J. M. McTEER,

R. N. PRICE.

Resolved, That our Bishops be, and they are hereby, respectfully requested to appoint, as far as may be consistent with the interests of the work, the preachers on trial as junior preachers to pastoral charges.

C. I. VANDEVENTER,

W. M. RUSH,

H. A. BOURLAND.

Resolved, That the Secretaries of the Missionary Boards of the Annual Conferences be required to send reports annually to the Secretary of the General Board, that he may publish them in his annual report.

C. LONG,

J. M. McTEER.

Resolved, That the College of Bishops be requested to supply the vacancy in the Editorial Committee of the *Southern Review*, caused by the declinature of Bishop Marvin.

On motion of N. Head, Conference agreed to adjourn—the next session to be held at Atlanta, Ga., the first Wednesday in May, 1878.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The Conference then united in singing Hymn 744:

From all that dwell below the skies—

and the doxology.

The benediction was then pronounced by Bishop Paine; and thus closed the Seventh Session of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

ROBERT PAINE,

HUBBARD H. KAVANAUGH,

ENOCH M. MARVIN,

HOLLAND N. McTYEIRE,

GEORGE F. PIERCE,

WILLIAM M. WIGHTMAN,

DAVID S. DOGGETT,

JOHN C. KEENER.

THOMAS O. SUMMERS, *Secretary*.

ATTICUS G. HAYGOOD,

F. M. KENNEDY,

J. D. VINCIL,

} *Assistant Secretaries.*

APPENDIX.

[THE following Report was withdrawn from the Secretary's table, and was not recovered till the Journal was stereotyped. It should have appeared on page 481.]

MINORITY REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, NO. 2.

The undersigned, differing from the majority of the Committee on Finance with regard to the claims of superannuated preachers, and the widows and orphans of deceased members of the Conference, upon the Church for support; and believing that all who serve the altar should live of the altar, and that every one who devotes his entire active life to the work and services of the Church, should be cared for by the Church when he is no longer able to labor; and fully sympathizing with the leading features of the memorials from the South Georgia Conference, and from the Texas Conference, and also the paper submitted to this General Conference by M. S. Andrews and Wm. Shapard, all proposing plans for the equitable distribution of the superannuated fund among the different claimants, beg leave to offer the following minority report. In submitting this report we will take occasion to express our regret that the whole matter had not been given to a committee of ministers who are directly and personally interested in it, and who are presumed to know all the bearings of the subject, especially as it is not a question of raising money, but dividing that already raised, and among a certain class of claimants. It will be observed that the plan we propose for the distribution of the Conference fund is based partly on the necessities of the claimants, but mainly on service.

We propose the following amendment of the Discipline, page 150, Art. 3, in lieu of items 1 and 2, which read thus:

"1. To receive all moneys collected as Conference collections or otherwise, and distribute the same to the superannuated preachers, and the widows and orphans of deceased members of the Conference, according to their best judgment of the several necessities.

"2. They shall estimate the amount that will probably be necessary to meet the claims of the superannuated preachers, and the widows and orphan children of deceased members of the Conference, and apportion the same to the different Presiding Elders' Districts for collection the ensuing year."

Substitute the following, so that the whole will read thus:

1. It shall be the duty of the Joint Board to estimate the amount that will be necessary to meet the claims of the superannuated preachers, and the widows and the orphans (who are under sixteen years of age) of the deceased members of the Conference, and with the aid of the Presiding Elders to apportion the same to the different appointments for collection the ensuing year.

2. To receive all moneys collected and donated for the Conference fund, and distribute them annually according to the following graduated scale:

1. Every superannuated preacher, who has traveled ten years and upward from the time he was received on trial for our work, shall receive twenty dollars for each year of effective service; provided that the rate of increase shall cease after thirty years of active service. Provided, also, that an unmarried preacher, and a widower without children, shall be allowed one-half the above sum.

2. The widow of a deceased member of the Conference who has children shall be allowed her husband's claim; provided that when there is but one child she shall have two-thirds of the husband's claim, and when there are no children, one-half of that claim.

3. Three or more children whose parents are both dead shall be allowed the claim of their father. For a smaller number in one family the Board shall make a proportionate allowance.

4. If a superannuated preacher marry and continue non-effective, his widow and her children shall have no claim.

5. The time a preacher may be supernumerary is not to be estimated as a part of his effective service.

6. In case of readmission there is to be no claim for service prior to such readmission.

7. Those coming to us from other Churches will have their claims estimated from the time they are received for our work; provided this is not to apply to those who have already come to us from other Churches—their claims are to be estimated according to the time they have continuously spent in the active ministry.

8. When a deceased member of the Conference leaves a widow and two or more sets of children, the Board shall make a just division of the allowance to the family among the several members.

9. The above plan is to apply, without discrimination, to all who receive appointments from the Bishop as members of the Conference.

Respectfully submitted.

H. A. STOLLENWERCK.

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| ALABAMA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> T. O. Summers, O. R. Blue, W. A. McCarty, A. S. Andrews, H. D. Moore, J. W. Rush. <i>Lay:</i> S. H. Dent, L. M. Smith, F. Law, W. E. Wailes, R. A. Hardaway, E. Y. McMorris (reserve, in place of P. Price Williams)..... | 12 |
| ARKANSAS.— <i>Clerical:</i> S. H. Babcock, J. J. Roberts. <i>Lay:</i> C. F. Harvey, H. C. Allen..... | 4 |
| BALTIMORE.— <i>Clerical:</i> S. Regester, A. W. Wilson, J. S. Martin, S. Rodgers, D. Thomas, R. R. S. Hough, P. H. Whisner, S. S. Roszell. <i>Lay:</i> M. Walton, J. H. Figgat, T. J. Magruder, E. Hamil, J. W. Newton, J. B. Wilson (reserve, in place of G. Law), L. M. Wilson (reserve, in place of J. A. Carter)..... | 15 |
| COLUMBIA.— <i>Clerical:</i> J. W. Compton..... | 1 |
| DENVER.— <i>Clerical:</i> David Morton, W. M. Smith. <i>Lay:</i> E. M. Beckwith, S. F. Jones (reserve, in place of John B. Taylor)..... | 4 |
| EAST TEXAS.— <i>Clerical:</i> Robert S. Finley, R. W. Thompson (reserve, in place of E. L. Armstrong). <i>Lay:</i> D. H. Connally, Jas. F. Taylor..... | 4 |
| FLORIDA.— <i>Clerical:</i> A. A. Robinson, E. L. T. Blake, T. W. Moore. <i>Lay:</i> G. W. Taylor, J. J. Davis, G. W. Frazier..... | 6 |
| GERMAN MISSION.— <i>Clerical:</i> J. B. A. Ahrens..... | 1 |
| HOLSTON.— <i>Clerical:</i> Frank Richardson, W. G. E. Cunnyingham, Geo. Stewart, E. E. Wiley, R. N. Price, J. S. Burnett, J. H. Brunner. <i>Lay:</i> Peter Gallagher, J. P. McMillan, John W. Paulett, T. P. Summers, P. A. Mitchell, J. P. Kelly, J. W. Gaut (reserve, in place of Robert B. Vance)..... | 14 |
| ILLINOIS.— <i>Clerical:</i> Colin Murchison, Benj. R. Hester. <i>Lay:</i> J. B. McBryde..... | 3 |
| INDIAN MISSION.— <i>Clerical:</i> Young Ewing, J. H. Walker. <i>Lay:</i> G. W. Hester..... | 3 |
| KENTUCKY.— <i>Clerical:</i> C. W. Miller, H. P. Walker, S. X. Hall, J. W. Fitch. <i>Lay:</i> A. G. Stitt, W. Miller, J. W. Rodman, J. S. Gaunt..... | 8 |
| LITTLE ROCK.— <i>Clerical:</i> A. Hunter, A. R. Winfield, E. N. Watson. <i>Lay:</i> W. H. Wheeler, S. M. McGehee, A. A. Key (reserve, in place of W. E. Guise)..... | 6 |

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| LOS ANGELES.— <i>Clerical:</i> Millard J. Law, William B. Kavanaugh..... | 2 |
| LOUISIANA.— <i>Clerical:</i> Linus Parker, C. W. Carter, J. E. Cobb, J. A. Miller. <i>Lay:</i> W. H. N. Magruder, B. O. L. Rayne..... | 6 |
| LOUISVILLE.— <i>Clerical:</i> A. H. Redford, N. H. Lee, B. M. Messick, H. C. Settle, G. H. Hayes. <i>Lay:</i> W. S. Johnson, A. B. Stark, W. B. Harrison, John L. Wheat, Green W. Beard..... | 10 |
| MEMPHIS.— <i>Clerical:</i> W. T. Harris, T. L. Boswell, A. H. Thomas, R. H. Mahon, S. W. Moore. <i>Lay:</i> A. P. Watterfield, J. R. Godwin, A. T. Fielder, D. G. Godwin. W. C. Johnson, clerical reserve, substituted S. W. Moore a part of the session..... | 9 |
| MISSISSIPPI.— <i>Clerical:</i> C. G. Andrews, H. F. Johnson, W. H. Watkins, R. Abbey, J. A. Ellis. <i>Lay:</i> C. K. Marshall, S. B. Watts, W. L. Nugent, R. Babington, T. L. Mellen..... | 10 |
| MISSOURI.— <i>Clerical:</i> Wm. M. Rush, John D. Vincil, Berry H. Spencer, Wm. W. Jones, Wm. A. Tarwater, Cornelius I. Vandeventer. <i>Lay:</i> P. P. Ellis, Wm. O. Gray (reserve, in place of J. C. Wills, deceased), John F. Rucker (reserve, in place of D. K. Pittman)..... | 9 |
| NORTH ALABAMA.— <i>Clerical:</i> Hardie Brown, C. D. Oliver, J. G. Gurley, J. B. Stevenson, J. M. Boland. <i>Lay:</i> Joseph H. Johnson, Wilson L. Hefflin, Jared E. Groce, Solomon Palmer, Geo. E. Kumpe. F. P. Randall, lay reserve, substituted Geo. E. Kumpe, part of the session... | 10 |
| NORTH CAROLINA.— <i>Clerical:</i> N. H. D. Wilson, L. S. Burkhead, W. S. Black, B. Craven, J. W. North, E. A. Yates, W. H. Bobbitt. <i>Lay:</i> W. F. Kornegay, H. Lily, C. G. Montgomery, F. C. Robbins, O. W. Carr, T. M. Jones, W. J. T. Miller..... | 14 |
| NORTH GEORGIA.— <i>Clerical:</i> A. G. Haygood, W. H. Potter, J. Boring, J. E. Evans, H. J. Adams, W. F. Cook, Y. J. Allen, W. P. Harrison. <i>Lay:</i> A. H. Colquitt, G. N. Lester, J. M. Beall, J. F. Langston, E. H. Pottle, T. M. Meriwether, J. C. Johnson, J. H. Grogan..... | 16 |
| NORTH MISSISSIPPI.— <i>Clerical:</i> John Barcroft, W. P. Barton, J. J. Wheat, James D. Cameron, Wm. Murrah. <i>Lay:</i> John Y. Murry, John B. Fant, H. W. Foote, Robert Paine, jr., J. B. Streater..... | 10 |
| NORTH TEXAS.— <i>Clerical:</i> J. H. McLean, R. Lane, W. F. Easterling, M. H. Neely. <i>Lay:</i> A. Holt, W. J. Swayne..... | 6 |
| NORTH-WEST TEXAS.— <i>Clerical:</i> W. G. Veal, J. D. Shaw, W. G. Connor, T. Stanford, J. S. McCarver. <i>Lay:</i> J. R. Henry, O. F. Davenport, T. H. Shugart, J. Richards..... | 9 |
| PACIFIC.— <i>Clerical:</i> J. C. Simmons, O. P. Fitzgerald. <i>Lay:</i> W. B. Parsons, C. P. Berry..... | 4 |
| SOUTH CAROLINA.— <i>Clerical:</i> A. M. Shipp, W. W. Duncan, F. M. Kennedy, H. A. C. Walker, A. M. Chrietzberg, S. B. Jones, O. A. Darby. <i>Lay:</i> J. H. Carlisle, T. S. Moorman, W. C. McMillan, Wm. Stokes, F. A. Connor, H. Baer, John A. Elkins (reserve, in place of G. J. Patterson)..... | 14 |
| SOUTH GEORGIA.— <i>Clerical:</i> J. W. Hinton, Lovick Pierce, J. S. Key, J. B. McGehee, J. O. A. Clark. <i>Lay:</i> I. Hardeman, R. W. Lovett, J. M. Matthews, H. A. Crittenden, N. W. Dozier (reserve, in place of A. A. Allen)..... | 10 |

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| SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI.— <i>Clerical</i> : Thos. M. Cobb, M. Adkisson, S. S. Bryant. <i>Lay</i> : H. C. Ewing, G. M. Jones, A. T. Winsor (reserve, in place of J. P. Strother)..... | | 6 |
| ST. LOUIS.— <i>Clerical</i> : Joseph W. Lewis, Thomas M. Finney. <i>Lay</i> : John Hogan, Logan D. Dameron (reserve, in place of R. A. Hatcher)..... | | 4 |
| TENNESSEE.— <i>Clerical</i> : John B. McFerrin, William Burr, David C. Kelley, Robert A. Young, J. B. Allison, Robert K. Hargrove, Joseph B. West, Wellborn Mooney. <i>Lay</i> : N. T. Lupton, William H. Morrow, J. L. Parkes, E. D. Patterson, D. T. Reynolds, C. R. Head, W. H. Morgan (reserve, in place of S. A. Caldwell)..... | | 15 |
| TEXAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : Robert Alexander, H. V. Philpott, Isaac G. John. <i>Lay</i> : J. D. Giddings, J. C. C. Winch..... | | 5 |
| VIRGINIA.— <i>Clerical</i> : W. W. Bennett, Leroy M. Lee, P. A. Peterson, John E. Edwards, John D. Blackwell, R. N. Sledd, L. S. Reed, Paul Whitehead. <i>Lay</i> : G. M. Bain, jr., Thos. Branch, John R. Pace, T. W. Mason, R. H. Pollard..... | | 13 |
| WESTERN VIRGINIA.— <i>Clerical</i> : J. F. Medley, T. S. Wade, S. Black. <i>Lay</i> : M. M. Carr..... | | 4 |
| WESTERN.— <i>Clerical</i> : T. C. Downs, Jacob McEwen. <i>Lay</i> : William S. Chick..... | | 3 |
| WEST TEXAS.— <i>Clerical</i> : Homer S. Thrall, J. S. Gillett. <i>Lay</i> : M. N. Shive, P. C. Woods..... | | 4 |
| WHITE RIVER.— <i>Clerical</i> : John M. Steel, John H. Dye. <i>Lay</i> : O. T. Hunt, W. W. Garland..... | | 4 |
| Total..... | | 278 |

JOURNAL
OF THE
General Conference
OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH,
MAY 1-24, 1878.

THE Eighth General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, began its session in the First Church, Atlanta, Ga., Wednesday, May 1, 1878, at 10 o'clock A.M.

All the Bishops were present except Bishop Paine.

Bishop Pierce took the chair.

The session was opened by the singing of Hymn 625, read by Bishop Wightman,

O Thou who camest from above.

Bishop McTyeire then led in prayer. Bishop Pierce read Psalm cxlv., and Bishop Kavanaugh a part of Philippians ii.

Bishop Paine entered during the reading of the Lessons—having been detained on the road by the burning of a bridge.

Bishop Doggett then gave out Hymn 904, which was sung by the Conference,

Try us, O God, and search the ground.

C. K. Marshall then led in prayer.

J. E. Evans asked and obtained leave of absence to attend a funeral-service.

Bishop Pierce, being in the chair, called upon the Secretary of the last Conference to call the list of the Annual Conferences; and vouchers for the delegates elect were furnished.

The following delegates, being present, responded to their names, and took their seats accordingly, to wit:

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: S. Regester, A. W. Wilson, J. S. Martin, S. Rodgers, D. Thomas, R. R. S. Hough, P. H. Whisner, S. S. Roszell. *Lay*: M. Walton, J. H. Figgart, T. J. Magruder, P. Hamil. J. B. Wilson and L. M. Wilson, reserves in place of G. Law and J. A. Carter. 14.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: W. W. Bennett, Leroy M. Lee, P. A. Peterson, John E. Edwards, R. N. Sledd, L. S. Reed, Paul Whitehead. *Lay*: G. M. Bain, jr., Thos. Branch, T. W. Mason. 10.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. F. Medley, T. S. Wade, S. Black. *Lay*: M. M. Carr. 4.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Frank Richardson, W. G. E. Cunyningham, Geo. Stewart, E. E. Wiley, R. N. Price, J. S. Burnett, J. H. Brunner. *Lay*: Peter Gallagher, J. P. McMillan, T. P. Summers, P. A. Mitchell. J. W. Gaut, reserve in place of Robert B. Vance. 12.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: N. H. D. Wilson, L. S. Burkhead, W. S. Black, B. Craven, J. W. North, E. A. Yates, W. H. Bobbitt. *Lay*: W. F. Kornegay, H. Lily, C. G. Montgomery, F. C. Robbins, O. W. Carr, T. M. Jones. 13.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. M. Shipp, W. W. Duncan, F. M. Kennedy, H. A. C. Walker, A. M. Chrietzberg, S. B. Jones, O. A. Darby. *Lay*: J. H. Carlisle, W. C. McMillan. 9.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. G. Haygood, W. H. Potter, J. Boring, J. E. Evans, H. J. Adams, W. F. Cook, Y. J. Allen, W. P. Harrison. *Lay*: T. M. Meriwether, J. C. Johnson, J. H. Grogan. 11.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. W. Hinton, Lovick Pierce, J. S. Key, J. B. McGehee, J. O. A. Clark. *Lay*: I. Harde-
man, R. W. Lovett, J. M. Matthews, H. A. Crittenden. 9.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. A. Robinson, E. L. T. Blake, T. W. Moore. *Lay*: G. W. Taylor, J. J. Davis. 5.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: T. O. Summers, O. R. Blue, W. A. McCarty, A. S. Andrews, H. D. Moore. *Lay*: S. H. Dent, W. E. Wailes, R. A. Hardaway. 8.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Hardie Brown, C. D. Olier, J. G. Gurley, J. B. Stevenson, J. M. Boland. *Lay*: Joseph H. Johnson, Wilson L. Hefflin, Jared E. Groce, Solomon Palmer. F. P. Randall, reserve in place of Geo. E. Kumpe. 10.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: C. W. Carter, J. E. Cobb. *Lay*: W. H. N. Magruder, B. O. L. Rayne. 4.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: C. G. Andrews, H. F. Johnson, W. H. Watkins, R. Abbey, J. A. Ellis. *Lay*: C. K. Marshall, S. B. Watts, W. L. Nugent, R. Babington, T. L. Mellen. 10.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: John Barcroft, W. P. Barton, J. J. Wheat, James D. Cameron, Wm. Murrah. *Lay*: John Y. Murry, John B. Fant, H. W. Foote, J. B. Streater. 9.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: W. T. Harris, T. L. Boswell, A. H. Thomas, R. H. Mahon, S. W. Moore. *Lay*: A. P. Warterfield, J. R. Godwin, A. T. Fielder, D. G. Godwin. 9.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. B. McFerrin, Wm. Burr, D. C. Kelley, R. A. Young, J. B. Allison, R. K. Hargrove, Jos. B. West, Wellborn Mooney. *Lay*: E. D. Patterson, D. T. Reynolds, C. R. Head. 11.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: C. W. Miller, H. P. Walker, S. X. Hall, J. W. Fitch. *Lay*: A. G. Stitt, W. Miller, J. W. Rodman, J. S. Gaunt. 8.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. H. Redford, N. H. Lee, B. M. Messick, H. C. Settle, G. H. Hayes. *Lay*: W. S. Johnson, W. B. Harrison. 7.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. W. Lewis, T. M. Finney. *Lay*: John Hogan. L. D. Dameron, reserve in place of R. A. Hatcher. 4.

SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI.—*Clerical*: Thos. M. Cobb, M. Adkisson, S. S. Bryant. *Lay*: G. M. Jones. A. T. Winsor, reserve in place of J. P. Strother. 5.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Wm. M. Rush, John D. Vincil, Berry H. Spencer, Wm. W. Jones, Wm. A. Tarwater, Cornelius I. Vandeventer. *Lay*: P. P. Ellis. Wm. O. Gray and John F. Rucker, reserves in place of J. C. Wills, deceased, and D. K. Pittman. 9.

WESTERN CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: T. C. Downs, Jacob McEwen. *Lay*: W. S. Chick. 3.

DENVER CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: David Morton, W. M. Smith. *Lay*: E. M. Beckwith. 3.

INDIAN MISSION CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Young Ewing, J. H. Walker. *Lay*: G. B. Hester. 3.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: S. H. Babcock, J. J. Roberts. *Lay*: C. F. Harvey, H. C. Allen. 4.

WHITE RIVER CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: John M. Steel, John H. Dye. *Lay*: O. T. Hunt, W. W. Garland. 4.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. Hunter, A. R. Winfield,

E. N. Watson. *Lay*: W. H. Wheeler, A. A. Key, reserve in place of W. E. Guise. 5.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. H. McLean, R. Lane, W. F. Easterling, M. H. Neely. *Lay*: Asa Holt, W. J. Swayne. 6.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Robert S. Finley, R. W. Thompson, reserve in place of E. L. Armstrong. *Lay*: D. H. Connally, James F. Taylor. 4.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: R. Alexander, H. V. Philpott, I. G. John. *Lay*: J. D. Giddings, J. C. C. Winch. 5.

NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: W. G. Veal, J. D. Shaw, W. G. Connor, T. Stanford, J. S. McCarver. *Lay*: J. R. Henry, O. F. Davenport, T. H. Shugart. 8.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: H. S. Thrall, J. S. Gillett. *Lay*: M. M. Shive, P. C. Woods. 4.

GERMAN MISSION CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. B. A. Ahrens. 1.

LOS ANGELES CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Millard J. Law, Williams B. Kavanaugh. 2.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. C. Simmons, O. P. Fitzgerald. *Lay*: C. P. Berry. 3.

COLUMBIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. W. Compton. 1.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Colin Murchison, Benjamin R. Hester. *Lay*: J. B. McBryde. 3.

There were 246 members present, being more than a quorum.

On motion of N. H. Lee, Thos. O. Summers, of the Alabama Conference, was elected Secretary, and on his motion A. G. Haygood, of the North Georgia Conference, was elected Assistant Secretary.

The Hon. James Jackson, Judge of the Supreme Court of Georgia—substituting the Governor, who was unavoidably absent from the capital—then gave the Conference a most hearty, eloquent, and singularly appropriate welcome to the State of Georgia. In a most felicitous manner he represented the Chief Executive of the State, the Mayor of Atlanta, every man, woman and child, in tendering hospitalities to the Bishops and members of Conference.

Bishop Pierce echoed the welcome of Judge Jackson, being himself a native of Georgia—assuring the Conference that the people of the State most cordially welcomed the body in holding its session in their capital city. He then called upon Bishop McTyeire to respond to the address of welcome, which he did in his happiest style—making a beautiful and pertinent allusion to Wesley's work in the colony of Georgia, and contrasting "the

day of small and feeble things" with the wonderful extension of the work of God in our day, as illustrated in the body assembled in the Empire State of the South.

On motion of W. F. Cook, the hour of meeting was fixed at 9 o'clock A.M., and the hour of adjournment at 1 o'clock P.M.

The bar of the House was fixed at the lowest end of the third window.

On motion of J. Boring, the Presiding Elder of Atlanta District and the preachers of the city were appointed a Committee on Public Worship.

The following resolutions were then offered and adopted:

Resolved, That the standing committees be composed of one delegate from each Annual Conference, to be nominated by the respective delegations, and that the said committees be as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. On Episcopacy. | 5. On Missions. |
| 2. On Itinerancy. | 6. On Revisal. |
| 3. On Publishing Interests. | 7. On Sunday-schools. |
| 4. On Boundaries. | 8. On Education. |

P. A. PETERSON.

J. M. BOLAND.

Resolved, That a committee of seven on Credentials be appointed by the Chair, to whom all disputed cases shall be referred.

A. R. WINFIELD.

H. V. PHILPOTT.

The Bishop appointed the following members on said committee: S. Regester, Thos. Branch, Harvey F. Johnson, O. R. Blue, Asa Holt, Weyman H. Potter, H. W. Foote.

On motion of E. E. Wiley, the Chair was requested to appoint a Committee on Introductions, to be composed of three clerical and three lay delegates.

The Chair appointed the following members on said committee: E. E. Wiley, J. E. Evans, J. E. Edwards, C. K. Marshall, A. H. Colquitt, T. L. Mellen.

The Exhibit of the Book Agent and the Reports of the Board of Missions were presented to the Conference.

On motion, the chairmen of the respective delegations were directed to meet at 3 o'clock this afternoon to arrange their seating in the Conference-room.

On motion, it was ordered that the Conference meet this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

The Rules of Order of the last session were read, and on

motion of H. J. Adams, P. A. Peterson, H. V. Philpott, and H. F. Johnson, were appointed a Committee on the Rules.

On motion, the Rules of Order of the last Conference were adopted for the present.

The Conference adjourned with the doxology, and the benediction by Bishop Paine.

Wednesday Afternoon, May 1, 1878.

Conference met at the hour appointed, Bishop Pierce in the chair.

N. H. Lee conducted divine service by reading Psalm cxi., singing the hymn,

A charge to keep I have,

and offering prayer.

The Minutes of the morning session were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop Kavanaugh took the chair.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted, by a rising vote:

Resolved, That we hereby express our deep sorrow at the intelligence which has reached us of the death of two lay delegates elect to this Conference, to wit, the Rev. J. C. Wills, of the Missouri Conference, and the Rev. R. P. McKaimie, of the North Texas Conference.

W. F. COOK,

H. J. ADAMS.

P. A. Peterson, chairman of the Committee on Rules of Order, presented the report of said committee, which was read, as follows:

REPORT ON RULES OF ORDER.

The Committee on Rules of Order recommend the adoption of the Rules of Order of the last General Conference, with the following amendments:

1. Strike from Rule 19 all after the word "debate" in the fifth line, so that the rule shall read as follows: When a member shall move that "the question be now put," the vote on such motion shall be taken without debate; and if two-thirds of the members voting shall sustain the call, the President shall put the question then pending, and the vote shall be taken immediately, without debate.

2. That the following rule be added, and numbered 20, viz.:

Whenever a change in the Discipline shall be proposed, the section, chapter, or paragraph, in which it occurs, and also the proposed change, shall be printed in the *Daily Advocate*.

P. A. PETERSON,

H. F. JOHNSON,

H. V. PHILPOTT.

Atlanta, Ga., May 1, 1878.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the first item was stricken out, and the report as amended was adopted.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. The Conference shall meet at 9 o'clock A.M., and adjourn at 1 P.M., but may alter the times of meeting and adjournment at their discretion.

2. The President shall take the chair precisely at the hour to which the Conference stood adjourned, and cause the same to be opened by reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer; and, on the appearance of a quorum, shall have the journals of the preceding day read and approved, when the business of the Conference shall proceed in the following order, viz.:

(1) Reports of the standing committees.

(2) Reports of the select committees.

(3) Petitions, memorials, and appeals.

3. The President shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Conference; but in case of such appeal, the question shall be taken without debate.

4. He shall appoint all committees, not otherwise specially ordered by the Conference; but any member may decline serving on more than one committee at the same time.

5. All motions and resolutions introduced by any member shall be reduced to writing, if the President, Secretary, or any two members, request it.

6. A member presenting any petition, memorial, or other paper which should go to a standing committee, shall name the committee to which he would have it referred, and if there be no objection, it shall be so referred without a vote.

7. Committees recommending changes of the Discipline shall recite not only the page, chapter, and section proposed to be amended, but also the paragraph as amended.

8. When a motion or resolution is made and seconded, or a

report presented, and is read by the Secretary, or stated by the President, it shall be deemed in possession of the Conference; but any motion or resolution may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before decision or amendment.

9. No new motion or resolution shall be made until the one under consideration is disposed of, which may be done by adoption or rejection, unless one of the following motions shall intervene, which motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are placed, viz.: Indefinite postponement, laying on the table, reference to a committee, postponement to a given time, amendment or a substitute: *provided* that a motion to lay on the table shall be put without debate.

10. No member shall be interrupted when speaking, except by the President, to call him to order when he departs from the question, or uses personalities or disrespectful language; but any member may call the attention of the President to the subject when he deems a speaker out of order, and any member may explain if he thinks himself misrepresented.

11. When any member is about to speak in debate, or to deliver any matter to the Conference, he shall rise from his seat and respectfully address himself to the President.

12. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question, nor more than fifteen minutes at one time, without leave of the Conference; nor shall any member speak more than once until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

13. When any motion or resolution shall have passed, it shall be in order for any member who voted in the majority to move for a reconsideration.

14. No member shall absent himself from the service of the Conference without leave, unless he be sick or unable to attend.

15. No member shall be allowed to vote on any question who is not within the bar at the time when such question is put by the President, except by leave of the Conference, when such member has been necessarily absent.

16. Every member who shall be within the bar at the time the question is put shall give his vote unless the Conference, for special reasons, excuse him.

17. No resolution altering or rescinding any rule of Discipline shall be adopted until it shall have been at least one day in the possession of the Conference.

18. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate.

19. Whenever a member shall move that "the question shall now be put," the vote on such motion shall be taken without debate; and if two-thirds of the members voting shall sustain the call, the President shall put the question then pending, and the vote shall be taken immediately, without debate; and if the pending question shall be an amendment or substitute, and shall be rejected, the President shall then put the main question, and the vote shall be taken on that, without debate.

20. Whenever a change in the Discipline shall be proposed, the section, chapter, or paragraph in which it occurs, and also the proposed change, shall be printed in the *Daily Advocate*.

The following delegates, who were not present this morning, responded to their names, and took their seats accordingly:

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: T. S. Moorman and Wm. Stokes; also J. A. Elkins, lay reserve in place of G. J. Patterson.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: G. W. Beard.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. W. Rush.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: J. M. Beall.

J. J. Davis and J. G. Gurley asked and obtained leave of absence till to-morrow.

The list of Conferences was called, and the members of the Standing Committees were announced, except those of the St. Louis Conference.

After some discussion, farther action on the subject was postponed, and, on motion of W. M. Rush, all cases of disputed membership were referred to the Committee on Credentials.

On motion of R. A. Young, a Committee on Finance, consisting of one member from each Conference, was ordered. The committee is composed as follows: Baltimore, D. Thomas; Virginia, T. Branch; Western Virginia, M. M. Carr; Holston, J. W. Gaut; North Carolina, F. C. Robbins; South Carolina, T. S. Moorman; North Georgia, T. M. Meriwether; South Georgia, M. W. Dozier; Florida, G. W. Taylor; Alabama, M. E. Wailes; North Alabama, J. E. Groce; Louisiana, B. L. O. Rayne; Mississippi, T. L. Mellen; North Mississippi, J. B. Fant; Memphis, A. T. Fielder; Tennessee, R. A. Young; Kentucky, J. S. Gaunt; Louisville, G. W. Beard; St. Louis, T. M. Finney; South-west Missouri, A. T. Winsor; Missouri, J. F. Rucker; Western, W. S. Chick; Denver, E. M. Beckwith; Indian Mission, G. B. Hester; Arkansas, J. J. Roberts;

White River, O. T. Hunt; Little Rock, S. M. McGehee; North Texas, W. J. Swain; East Texas, D. H. Connally; Texas, J. C. C. Winch; North-west Texas, J. R. Henry; West Texas, M. M. Shive; German Mission, J. B. A. Ahrens; Los Angeles, L. D. Palmer; Pacific, O. P. Fitzgerald; Columbia, J. W. Compton; Illinois, J. W. Smith.

On motion of H. F. Johnson, a Committee on the Bible Cause, consisting of five members, to be appointed by the Chair, was ordered; also a similar Committee on Temperance.

The Chair appointed the following on the Committee on the Bible Cause: H. F. Johnson, A. B. Stark, R. W. Lovett, T. S. Moorman, J. M. Bell.

The Committee on Temperance was also announced, as follows: J. H. Carlisle, J. M. Steel, O. A. Darby, W. G. Veal, P. P. Ellis.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop.

Thursday Morning, May 2, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Kavanaugh in the chair.

A. S. Andrews conducted divine service.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Paine took the chair.

The following delegates, who were not present yesterday, responded to their names, and took their seats, to wit:

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: J. W. Newton.

DENVER CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: S. F. Jones, reserve in place of J. B. Taylor. He was put on the Committee on Itinerancy in place of W. M. Smith, and on the Committee on Finance in place of E. M. Beckwith.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: H. Baer.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: G. E. Kumpe. He took his seat, which was occupied yesterday by F. P. Randle, and also his place on the Committee on Sunday-schools.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: Jesse F. Langston, A. H. Colquitt.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: W. B. Parsons.

J. F. Medley, clerical delegate from the Western Virginia Conference, was put on the Committee on Finance in place of M. M. Carr, lay delegate.

N. H. D. Wilson moved that the Committee on the Publishing

Interests shall consist of one clerical and one lay member from each Conference.

The following substitute was offered, read, and laid on the table:

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to examine into the condition of the Publishing House, and report to this Conference at the earliest day within which satisfactory investigation can be made.

T. J. MAGRUDER,

P. GALLAGHER.

H. J. Adams moved a substitute that the Bishops appoint a committee of nine to examine the affairs of the Publishing House. This motion was laid on the table.

The motion of N. H. D. Wilson prevailed, and the list of Conferences was called, and the following names were announced as additional members of the Committee on Publishing Interests:

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—P. H. Whisner.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—G. M. Bain.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—M. M. Carr.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—J. P. McMillin.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—W. F. Kornegay, who was substituted on the Committee on Missions by J. W. North.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—T. S. Moorman, who was changed from the Committee on Finance; H. Baer was put in his place.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—W. H. Potter, who was substituted on the Committee on Episcopacy by W. F. Cook.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—Isaac Hardeman.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE.—G. W. Taylor, who was substituted on the Committee on Sunday-schools by J. J. Davis.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—S. H. Dent.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—J. M. Boland, who was substituted on the Committee on Education by W. L. Hefflin.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—E. J. Gay.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—T. L. Mellen, who was substituted by R. Babington on the Committee on Finance.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—H. W. Foote.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—A. H. Thomas.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—J. L. Parkes.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—J. W. Rodman.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—W. B. Harrison.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—L. D. Dameron.

SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—M. Adkisson, who was sub-

stituted on the Committee on Boundaries by S. S. Bryant. G. M. Jones, who was substituted on the Committee on Education by H. Clay Ewing.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—P. P. Ellis.

WESTERN CONFERENCE.—W. S. Chick.

DENVER CONFERENCE.—S. F. Jones.

INDIAN MISSION CONFERENCE.—Y. Ewing.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—S. H. Babcock.

WHITE RIVER CONFERENCE.—J. H. Dye.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—S. M. McGehee.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—J. H. McLean.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—J. F. Taylor.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—J. D. Giddings.

NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—J. R. Henry, who was substituted on the Committee on Missions by W. G. Connor.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—P. C. Woods.

GERMAN MISSION CONFERENCE.—No lay delegate present.

LOS ANGELES CONFERENCE.—L. D. Palmer.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE.—J. C. Simmons.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.—J. B. McBryde.

On motion of W. F. Cook, J. Jackson, E. E. Rawson, W. Wood, J. Collier, O. A. Thrower, W. S. Thompson, laymen, were added to the Committee on Public Worship.

S. Register, chairman of the Committee on Credentials, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read, and J. D. Giddings moved to adopt the first item, referring to David Morton.

H. F. Johnson, from said committee, presented a minority report, which was read, and laid on the table for the present:

MINORITY REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

The undersigned, a minority of the Committee on Credentials, respectfully reports that he cannot agree with a majority of the committee in case of Brother David Morton. According to the Discipline, a clerical representative must possess the following qualifications: 1st. He must have traveled at least four calendar years from the time he was received on trial. 2d. He must be in full connection at the time of holding the Conference. Brother Morton possessed these qualifications at the time of his election; but he was transferred to the Louisville Conference at the close of the session of the Denver Conference, at which he was elected, and is now a member of the Louisville Conference. That trans-

fer, in the opinion of your committeeman, disqualifies him to represent the Denver Conference. It will not do to say that subsequent action cannot disqualify; for, suppose a delegate has ceased to be a member of the Church, surely he would thereby forfeit his seat.

To be elected a delegate from the Denver Conference, he had to be a member of the Denver Conference; to represent the Denver Conference, he must continue to be a member of it. The adoption of the following resolution is recommended:

Resolved, That Brother David Morton, a member of the Louisville Conference, is not entitled to a seat in this body as a representative of the Denver Conference. H. F. JOHNSON.

After some discussion, the first item was adopted.

The second item was then taken up.

Bishop Wightman took the chair.

T. M. Finney, having spoken fifteen minutes in opposition to the adoption of the item, was allowed, by vote, to extend his remarks.

Bishop Paine resumed the chair.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and laid on the table:

Resolved, That for the present the part of the report referring to Brother Hogan be laid on the table; and the question of law as to his eligibility be referred to the College of Bishops for their decision.

W. G. VEAL,
N. H. LEE.

After farther discussion, Jesse Boring moved the previous question—the call was sustained.

On motion of S. H. Dent, the vote was taken separately.

Pending the question, the session was prolonged.

The vote resulted in 110 clerical for, and 34 against, the adoption of the second item; and 65 lay for, and 41 against, the adoption.

The Chair pronounced the question carried.

On motion of J. B. McFerrin, the report, as a whole, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

The Committee on Credentials organized by electing the undersigned chairman, and H. W. Foote, secretary.

The committee have had several cases under consideration, but

have arrived at a conclusion in two only, and have instructed me to make the following report as Report No. 1, to wit:

In the case of the Rev. David Morton, the committee adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of the Committee on Credentials, the Rev. David Morton is entitled to a seat in this Conference as a delegate from the Denver Conference.

In the case of the Rev. John Hogan, the following resolution was adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That the Rev. John Hogan is entitled to a seat as a delegate in this Conference.

Respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL REGESTER, Chairman.

H. W. FOOTE, Secretary.

General Conference M. E. Church, South, Atlanta, May 2, 1878.

The Rev. Dr. J. H. Martin, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, was introduced to the Conference.

On motion of the Secretary, S. R. Babcock, of the Arkansas Conference, was elected Assistant Secretary.

J. W. Lewis, of the St. Louis Conference, announced the names of the members of the Standing Committees from that Conference.

The Conference then adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Friday Morning, May 3, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Paine in the chair.

W. H. Watkins conducted divine worship.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop Wightman took the chair.

On motion of R. K. Hargrove, the reception of the Address of the Bishops was made the order of the day for 11 o'clock this morning.

J. W. Paulett and James P. Kelley, lay delegates from the Holston Conference, appeared and took their seats.

The list of Standing Committees was called, and several changes were made.

W. B. Parsons was substituted for J. C. Simmons on the Committee on Episcopacy, and J. C. Simmons was substituted for W. B. Parsons on the Committee on Missions, of the Pacific Conference.

S. W. Moore, delegate from Memphis Conference, was substituted for A. H. Thomas on the Committee on Publishing Interests.

The Standing Committees, comprising several subsequent changes, are as follows:

STANDING COMMITTEES.

| CONFERENCES. | EPISCOPACY. | ITINERANCY. | BOUNDARIES. |
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| Baltimore, Virginia, Western Virginia, Holston, North Carolina, South Carolina, North Georgia, South Georgia, Florida, Alabama, North Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Mississippi, Memphis, Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisville, St. Louis, South-west Missouri, Missouri, Western, Denver, Indian Mission, Arkansas, White River, Little Rock, North Texas, East Texas, Texas, North-west Texas, West Texas, German Mission, Los Angeles, Pacific, Columbia, Illinois, Chairmen, Secretaries, | S. Regester, W. W. Bennett, S. Black, E. E. Wiley, N. H. D. Wilson, A. M. Shipp, W. F. Cook, J. S. Key, E. L. T. Blake, O. R. Blue, H. Brown, C. W. Carter, W. H. Watkins, W. Murrah, T. L. Boswell, W. Burr, C. W. Miller, N. H. Lee, J. W. Lewis, S. S. Bryant, W. M. Rush, T. C. Downs, W. M. Smith, J. H. Walker, J. J. Roberts, J. M. Steel, A. Hunter, R. Lane, R. S. Finley, R. Alexander, W. G. Connor, H. S. Thrall, J. B. A. Ahrens, W. B. Kavanaugh, W. B. Parsons, J. W. Compton, C. Murchison, S. Regester, S. S. Bryant. | J. S. Martin, J. E. Edwards, T. S. Wade, F. Richardson, L. S. Burkhead, A. M. Chrietberg, J. Boring, J. O. A. Clark, A. A. Robinson, W. A. McCarty, C. D. Oliver, L. Parker, C. G. Andrews, J. Barcroft, W. T. Harris, W. Mooney, A. G. Stitt, H. C. Settle, J. Hogan, T. M. Cobb, J. D. Vincil, T. C. Downs, S. F. Jones, J. H. Walker, S. H. Babcock, J. H. Dye, E. N. Watson, W. F. Easterling, R. W. Thompson, H. V. Philpott, J. S. McCarver, J. S. Gillett, J. B. A. Ahrens, M. J. Law, O. P. Fitzgerald, J. W. Compton, B. R. Hester, John S. Martin, C. G. Andrews. | R. R. S. Hough, L. S. Reed, S. Black, J. S. Burnett, W. S. Black, W. C. McMillan, H. J. Adams, H. A. Crittenden, J. J. Davis, H. D. Moore, J. G. Gurley, B. O. L. Rayne, S. B. Watts, H. W. Foote, R. H. Mahon, D. T. Reynolds, S. X. Hall, A. H. Redford, L. D. Dameron, S. S. Bryant, W. A. Tarwater, T. C. Downs, D. Morton, Y. Ewing, J. J. Roberts, J. H. Dye, A. Hunter, J. H. McLean, R. S. Finley, R. Alexander, T. Stanford, P. C. Woods, J. B. A. Ahrens, M. J. Law, C. P. Berry, J. W. Compton, J. W. Smith, W. S. Black, S. X. Hall. |

| CONFERENCES. | PUBLISHING INTERESTS. | MISSIONS. |
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| Baltimore, Virginia, Western Virginia, Holston, North Carolina, South Carolina, North Georgia, South Georgia, Florida, Alabama, North Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Mississippi, Memphis, Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisville, St. Louis, South-west Missouri, Missouri, Western, Denver, Indian Mission, Arkansas, White River, Little Rock, North Texas, | P. H. Whisner, M. Walton, Paul Whitehead, G. M. Bain, T. S. Wade, M. M. Carr, R. N. Price, J. P. McMillan, B. Craven, W. F. Kornegay, S. B. Jones, T. S. Moorman, J. C. Johnson, W. H. Potter, J. B. McGehee, I. Hardeman, T. W. Moore, G. W. Taylor, A. S. Andrews, S. H. Dent, J. H. Johnson, J. M. Boland, J. E. Cobb, W. H. Foster, R. Abbey, T. L. Mellen, W. P. Barton, H. W. Foote, J. R. Godwin, S. W. Moore, J. B. McFerrin, J. L. Parkes, H. P. Walker, J. W. Rodman, B. M. Messick, W. B. Harrison, T. M. Finney, L. D. Dameron, G. M. Jones, M. Adkisson, W. W. Jones, P. P. Ellis, J. McEwen, W. S. Chick, D. Morton, S. F. Jones, G. B. Hester, Young Ewing, C. F. Harvey, S. H. Babcock, O. T. Hunt, John H. Dye, A. R. Winfield, S. M. McGehee, Asa Holt, J. H. McLean, | P. Hamil, G. M. Bain, M. M. Carr, G. Stewart, J. W. North, H. A. C. Walker, Y. J. Allen, R. W. Lovett, T. W. Moore, S. H. Dent, S. Palmer, C. W. Carter, W. L. Nugent, J. D. Cameron, A. P. Warterfield, D. C. Kelley, W. Miller, W. S. Johnson, J. W. Lewis, T. M. Cobb, C. I. Vandeventer, W. S. Chick, W. M. Smith, G. R. Hester, H. C. Allen, W. W. Garland, A. R. Winfield, W. F. Easterling, |

| CONFERENCES. | PUBLISHING INTERESTS. | MISSIONS. |
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| East Texas, Texas, North-west Texas, West Texas, German Mission, Los Angeles, Pacific, Columbia, Illinois, Chairmen, Secretaries, | R. W. Thompson, J. F. Taylor, I. G. John, J. D. Giddings, J. D. Shaw, J. M. Richards, H. S. Thrall, P. C. Woods, J. B. A. Ahrens, W. B. Kavanaugh, L. D. Palmer, C. P. Berry, J. C. Simmons, J. W. Compton, B. R. Hester, J. B. McBryde, J. B. McFerrin, James E. Cobb. | D. H. Connally, I. G. John, W. G. Connor, J. S. Gillett, J. B. A. Ahrens, L. D. Palmer, J. C. Simmons, J. W. Compton, J. B. McBryde, D. C. Kelley, W. S. Johnson. |

| CONFERENCES. | REVISAL. | SUNDAY-SCHOOLS. | EDUCATION. |
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| Baltimore, Virginia, Western Virginia, Holston, North Carolina, South Carolina, North Georgia, South Georgia, Florida, Alabama, North Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Mississippi, Memphis, Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisville, St. Louis, South-west Missouri, Missouri, Western, Denver, Indian Mission, Arkansas, White River, Little Rock, North Texas, East Texas, Texas, North-west Texas, West Texas, German Mission, Los Angeles, Pacific, Columbia, Illinois, Chairmen, Secretaries, | S. Rodgers, P. A. Peterson, J. F. Medley, J. H. Brunner, W. H. Bobbitt, F. M. Kennedy, J. E. Evans, J. W. Hinton, A. A. Robinson, J. W. Rush, J. B. Stevenson, J. A. Miller, H. F. Johnson, J. Y. Murry, A. H. Thomas, R. K. Hargrove, J. W. Fitch, G. H. Hayes, J. Hogan, M. Adkisson, B. H. Spencer, J. McEwen, E. M. Beckwith, Y. Ewing, H. C. Allen, J. M. Steel, E. N. Watson, M. H. Neely, R. W. Thompson, H. V. Philpott, W. G. Veal, M. N. Shive, J. B. A. Ahrens, M. J. Law, W. B. Parsons, J. W. Compton, C. Murchison, James E. Evans, F. M. Kennedy. | T. J. Magruder, T. W. Mason, J. F. Medley, P. Gallagher, E. A. Yates, J. H. Carlisle, J. H. Grogan, J. M. Matthews, J. J. Davis, R. A. Hardaway, G. E. Kumpe, W. H. N. Magruder, C. K. Marshall, J. B. Streater, D. G. Godwin, E. D. Patterson, J. S. Gaunt, J. L. Wheat, T. M. Finney, A. T. Winsor, P. P. Ellis, W. S. Chick, E. M. Beckwith, Y. Ewing, C. F. Harvey, W. W. Garland, A. A. Key, M. H. Neely, D. H. Connally, J. D. Giddings, T. H. Shugart, M. N. Shive, J. B. A. Ahrens, L. D. Palmer, J. C. Simmons, J. W. Compton, J. B. McBryde, C. K. Marshall, P. Gallagher. | J. B. Wilson, R. N. Slodd, M. M. Carr, T. P. Summers, T. M. Jones, W. W. Duncan, W. P. Harrison, I. Hardeman, G. W. Frazer, L. M. Smith, W. L. Hefflin, W. H. N. Magruder, J. A. Ellis, J. J. Wheat, S. W. Moore, N. T. Lupton, J. W. Rodman, A. B. Stark, T. M. Finney, H. C. Ewing, W. O. Gray, J. L. McEwen, D. Morton, G. B. Hester, S. H. Babcock, O. T. Hunt, W. H. Wheeler, W. J. Swain, J. F. Taylor, J. C. C. Winch, O. M. Davenport, P. C. Woods, J. B. A. Ahrens, M. J. Law, O. P. Fitzgerald, J. W. Compton, C. Murchison, W. P. Harrison, W. W. Duncan. |

| CONFERENCES. | FINANCE. | CONFERENCES. | FINANCE. |
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| Baltimore, Virginia, Western Virginia, Holston, North Carolina, South Carolina, North Georgia, South Georgia, Florida, Alabama, North Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Mississippi, Memphis, Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisville, St. Louis, South-west Missouri, | D. Thomas, T. Branch, J. F. Medley, J. W. Gaunt, F. C. Robbins, H. Baer, T. M. Meriwether, M. W. Dozier, G. W. Taylor, M. E. Wailes, J. E. Groce, B. O. L. Rayne, R. Babington, J. B. Fant, A. T. Fielder, R. A. Young, J. S. Gaunt, G. W. Beard, T. M. Finney, A. T. Winsor, | Missouri, Western, Denver, Indian Mission, Arkansas, White River, Little Rock, North Texas, East Texas, Texas, North-west Texas, West Texas, German Mission, Los Angeles, Pacific, Columbia, Illinois, Chairman, Secretary, | J. F. Rucker, W. S. Chick, E. M. Beckwith, G. B. Hester, J. J. Roberts, O. T. Hunt, W. H. Wheeler, W. J. Swain, D. H. Connally, J. C. C. Winch, J. M. Richards, M. N. Shive, J. B. A. Ahrens, L. D. Palmer, O. P. Fitzgerald, J. W. Compton, J. W. Smith, R. A. Young, J. C. C. Winch. |

COMMITTEE ON BIBLE CAUSE.

H. F. Johnson, A. B. Stark, R. W. Lovett, T. S. Moorman, J. M. Beall.

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

J. H. Carlisle, J. M. Steel, O. A. Darby, W. G. Veal, P. P. Ellis, J. M. Richards.

COMMITTEE ON THE NAME OF THE CHURCH.

O. P. Fitzgerald, W. M. Rush, R. Alexander, A. W. Wilson, Andrew Hunter, C. Murchison, A. S. Andrews, R. K. Hargrove, R. S. Finley, E. E. Wiley, C. D. Oliver, H. F. Johnson, O. A. Darby.

COMMITTEE ON THE HYMN-BOOK.

C. K. Marshall, S. S. Roszell, F. M. Kennedy, Jos. S. Key, T. M. Finney, A. R. Winfield, A. G. Haygood, John D. Blackwell, Jos. B. West.

COMMITTEE ON APPEALS.

S. Rodgers, L. S. Reed, T. S. Wade, Geo. Stewart, W. S. Black, J. B. Allison, O. A. Darby, W. F. Cook, J. B. McGehee, T. W. Moore, W. A. McCarty, J. M. Boland, J. E. Cobb, J. A. Ellis, Wm. Murrah, W. T. Harris, J. B. Wilson, J. W. Fitch, G. H. Hayes, T. M. Finney, M. Adkisson, W. W. Jones, T. C. Downs, W. W. Smith, J. H. Walker, J. J. Roberts, J. M. Steel, E. N. Watson, M. H. Neely, R. W. Thompson, R. Alexander, T. Stanford, J. S. Gillett, J. B. A. Ahrens, W. B. Kavanaugh, J. C. Simmons, J. W. Compton, B. R. Hester.

The following resolution was then offered and adopted:

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested to arrange the Conferences in alphabetical order in the Journal of the General Conference, and in the General Minutes.

C. W. MILLER,

A. G. HAYGOOD.

The following resolutions were offered, read, and adopted by a rising vote:

Resolved, That we are delighted to see the venerable form of our honored father, the Rev. Lovick Pierce, D.D., on the platform at this session of our General Conference, and we are devoutly grateful to Almighty God for sparing his life and permitting him to be with us.

Resolved, That Dr. Pierce be, and he is hereby, invited to preach before the Conference at any hour that may suit his convenience and comfort.

A. R. WINFIELD,

JOHN HOGAN.

The Chair called for Reports of Standing Committees.

There were none presented.

The Chair then called for Reports of Special Committees.

S. Regester, chairman of the Special Committee on Credentials, presented Report No. 2 of that committee:

REPORT NO. 2 OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

A majority of the Committee on Credentials have instructed me to report the following as their action in the case of Logan D. Dameron, to wit:

"The committee, after patient and careful consideration of the case of Logan D. Dameron, find from facts admitted and proved, that he (the said Dameron) applied for and was admitted to membership in Choteau Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church, South, on the 13th day of December, 1874. And as the Discipline of our Church requires as a qualification for lay membership in the General Conference a membership of six successive years, Brother Dameron is not eligible to membership in this Conference."

A minority report will be submitted.

The committee have considered all cases referred to them, and made reports thereon. There being no farther business before them, they ask to be discharged.

Respectfully submitted. SAMUEL REGESTER, Chairman.

H. W. Foote, of that committee, presented a minority report, as follows:

REPORT OF THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS (NO. 2).

Whereas, some irregularities and disagreements have occurred in regard to the relation of Logan D. Dameron to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, by reason of which a doubt may exist as to the length of time he has been a member thereof; and whereas, the lay members of the Annual Conference where these scenes all transpired, and who are presumed to understand them best, have chosen him as a delegate to represent them in the General Conference: therefore,

Resolved, That we recognize Logan D. Dameron as a member of this Conference.

Respectfully submitted.

H. W. FOOTE.

The report of the minority was laid on the table for the present.

The adoption of the report of the majority was moved, and S. Regester offered as an amendment the addition of the following paragraph to the report of the majority:

"Nevertheless, inasmuch as Brother Dameron is already enrolled, and there being no contestant for his seat, we recommend that he be permitted to retain his place among us."

J. W. Lewis spoke in opposition to the amendment—the time was extended, and pending his speech the order of the day caused the farther discussion of the subject to be suspended.

The Address of the Bishops was then read by Bishop Doggett:

ADDRESS OF THE BISHOPS.

DEAR BRETHREN:—After the lapse of four eventful years you have been permitted, in the good providence of God, to convene, as representatives of the M. E. Church, South, in its highest constitutional assembly, invested with “full powers,” under certain specified “limitations and restrictions, to make rules and regulations,” such as in your godly judgments will best promote its mission in the world.

We greet you in the name of our common Lord. We congratulate you upon the dignity which has been conferred upon you by your respective Annual Conferences, in the exercise of their electoral rights; by whose choice you have been elevated to positions in the only legislature and in the supreme judicatory of our Church. And we especially acknowledge, with grateful hearts, the auspicious circumstances which attend our quadrennial gathering. On no previous occasion of this kind have we enjoyed richer evidences of divine favor, or possessed greater elements of power and prosperity as a Church.

Since the adjournment of the last General Conference strange and instructive events, affecting the fortunes and destiny of the Christian religion, have occurred in the history of the world. To some of these we may briefly refer, as pertinent to this occasion. They are “signs of the times,” which it is our duty, as officers of the Church, to consider and improve.

The providential government of God is instituted to subserve the behests of the kingdom of Christ. “He is Head over all things to the Church.” “All judgment is committed to the Son.” Every department of evangelical Christendom is an integral portion of the commonwealth of Israel, and the prosperity of each is more or less involved in all those historical stages which signalize the course of human affairs. Contemplated on this wider scale, we are better prepared to realize the relations of our Methodism to the universal Church, and to humanity, and to project plans for other places and other times than those with which we are more immediately occupied. The connection between these general facts and our present responsibilities is neither obscure nor visionary. The apprehension of it is a part of our wisdom. It will enlarge the circle of our horizon, and animate our zeal for larger conquests.

The financial collapse, for example, which commenced four years ago, and which has since pervaded, perplexed, and para-

lyzed the commercial world, contains a lesson for the Church. As a matter of fact, it has reacted with corresponding force upon all those agencies of Christianity employing the use of money in their operations. Such a crisis ought not to retard, much less arrest, those operations. It is a radical mistake to suppose that the progress of Christ's kingdom is dependent upon the laws of commerce, or is necessarily affected by the contraction or expansion, the scarcity or repletion, of the currency. Its abundance, though rarely ever dedicated to God, ought always to be subsidized and sanctified by its consecration to his cause; but the deficiency of the one ought never to hinder the advancement of the other. It is a pretext for avarice and inaction. The resources of the Christian Church, notwithstanding the fluctuations in the markets of the world, are equal to its demands; and the combined efforts of its real members, actuated by the constraint of Christ's love, will compensate the deficiency, and even transcend it, by the affluence of their contributions. Riper scriptural views of the conditions of success, a livelier faith in a reigning Saviour, a more self-sacrificing response to the calls of duty, and a wiser economy in the use of money, will correct the ordinary calculations of the ledger, and leave a surplus for the cause of Christ. The question of personal convenience will be merged into one of Christian obligation, and a new phase of finance will replenish the revenues of the Church.

The startling diffusion of new and imposing forms of unbelief, within the period of which we speak, has placed the entire Christian Church in the presence of a formidable and self-confident antagonism, which is forcing upon her the vital questions of her true foundation, her essential integrity, her legitimate affinities, and her best modes of successful defense. All alike are obliged to accept this gage of war. We too must adjust ourselves to these exigences.

At the same time, the elements of evangelical Christendom, whether from external pressure or from internal impulse, or from both, have, in a remarkable degree, manifested a tendency toward unity in the fundamental articles of faith, and in spiritual fellowship. Their approximation on these grounds is a prominent feature of the times in which we live, and deserves the deepest attention. It does not appear to involve a surrender, or even a compromise, of peculiar tenets or modes of polity, but to seek only the affiliation of true Christians, on the basis of

acknowledged essentials. Viewed in this light, the movement should be hailed with joy as the exponent and vindication, under diversified aspects, of the "one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all," which, in all ages and in all places, underlie the true catholic Church of Christ. The preservation of distinct ecclesiastical organizations and the retention of doctrinal peculiarities are perfectly consistent with its cultivation, and, in fact, necessary to its development.

By an unexpected and mysterious process, in which we devoutly acknowledge the overruling hand of God, our country has recently passed into a state of marvelous tranquillity, eminently favorable to the expansion and energy of Christian enterprise. The contrast between it and that out of which, as a Church, we emerged more than twelve years ago, and in the midst of which, more or less, our lot has since been cast, is so astonishing as to justify special thanksgiving to God, and to stimulate our healthiest activity in his service.

In the meantime, a war of terrible proportions and destructive severity in the East, whatever may be its merits, has thus far terminated in the humiliation and curtailment of the greatest anti-christian power upon earth. We may reasonably hope that, notwithstanding its horrors, it has broken, if not removed, one of the fiercest obstacles to the evangelization of the world, and that, together with the temporal disfranchisement of the papacy, it has opened a new theater and started a new period for enlightened Christian zeal, in which a massive and corrupt ecclesiasticism shall be substituted by the Church in its purity, and the crescent of the Moslem wane before the cross of Christ.

In general, the extent to which all the nations of the earth are now accessible to the gospel and the manner in which prophecy and providence are blending in the history of the world, enhance the vocation of the entire Church of Christ, and indicate the relation which we, as a denomination, sustain to the grand consummation. Thus has the Lord been preparing a highway for himself, and training his militant hosts for the fulfillment of the apostolic commission, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

During the stirring period to which we refer, and amidst all its changes and complications, the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has not only maintained its ground, but has continued to evince the wisdom of its separate existence, and the vitality of its

independent organization. The original disruption, how much soever it was deprecated at the time by good men on both sides, has inured in a firmer compactness and better conservation of the fundamental principles which distinguish the great Wesleyan movement; and the aggregate results, we have reason to believe, have counterbalanced the incidental evils of that apparently calamitous event. Nothing has occurred during the past thirty-four years to shake our conviction of the stability of Southern Methodism, or lessen our attachment to its institutions. A more homogeneous ecclesiastical community does not exist on the American continent.

The quadrennial term now expiring has been characterized by almost universal peace and harmony amongst our ministry and membership, both in respect to doctrine and discipline, and in their cordial subordination to the exercise of legitimate authority. Nothing has been more decisive throughout our wide and varied domain than their unanimity in adhering to the peculiarities of our ecclesiastical system.

What, however, is of unspeakably more value, and cause of profounder gratitude, is the blessing of God which has crowned the agencies of the Church, during the past four years, with decided success. The gospel, as received by us, has been faithfully and fearlessly preached. Revivals of religion have extensively prevailed. Thousands have been added to the Church, and our borders have been continually extending. Houses of worship, in highly improved styles of architecture, have rapidly multiplied, and offered their comfort and attractions to increasing numbers of worshipers. Parsonages have been erected with unusual frequency, and with better accommodations for the families of our preachers; and appeals for contributions to benevolent objects have been met with a generous response. We rejoice to believe that the Church is in a generally healthy condition. Our statistics will show a gratifying progress in its growth and spirituality.

Amidst these cheering evidences of substantial coherence and prosperity, it is not without regret, and even apprehension, that we witness certain departures from the standards and genius of our system, and tendencies to others, which compromise its character and impair its efficiency. Changes of mere economy, adapted to the altered condition of times and places, are sometimes absolutely necessary and eminently salutary; but those

which affect the constitution and consistency of the system itself must be guarded with jealous vigilance, lest their incipency result in a gradual surrender of its vital forces. We refer to several admonitory symptoms which we take the liberty of urging upon your attention.

We cannot omit from this category the insufficient stress, in our day, laid upon the doctrine of "entire sanctification," as inculcated in the Wesleyan theology, and exemplified in the first age of Methodism. Notwithstanding its neglect on the one hand, and its fanatical distortions on the other by factious leaders, it is nevertheless the clear testimony of the Holy Scriptures. Its experience is the unquestionable privilege of believers, and its enjoyment the full-blown flower and the ripe fruit of the Christian life. The infrequency of its proclamation from the pulpit and the irregularity of its experimental power in the Church have proved a serious detriment to the robustness of our piety, and to the specialty of our mission, "to spread scriptural holiness over these lands." Let us more than ever reassert this great doctrine.

We refer in this connection also to the decline of an institution the history of which is incorporated into that of Methodism, and which more than any other human expedient contributed to its growth. The memory of the class-meeting is fragrant with blessing. Its suspension has been a calamity. Its neglect has not been compensated by any proposed substitute. It has not been abolished. It still survives by law. Its resuscitation in some effective form would vastly enhance our individual and corporate strength.

Methodism has always protested, by explicit warrant of the word of God, against "such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus," especially against those which are designated as fashionable amusements. The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has emphatically reiterated this protest. It is lamentable to what an extent it remains unheeded. Many of our members indulge in these forbidden pleasures and bring reproach upon the Church. Parents do not restrain their children from participating in them, and the evil grows by at least constructive connivance. It should be arrested by more decisive action, or it will become unmanageable altogether.

Our inquiries into the spiritual condition of the Church constrain us to say that a majority of our people are chargeable with a grave dereliction in respect to family worship. The priest-

hood, the altars, and the morning and evening sacrifices of the household, are the forgotten or neglected duties of many of our Israel. The laxity of domestic piety is entailing its baneful fruits upon the rising generation, and our sons and daughters, unnurtured by its sanctions, are falling into the giddy ranks that throng the road to ruin. Family religion is the imperative adjunct to personal piety, and the unalterable condition of its transmission to posterity.

Our preachers, for the most part, have been more liberally supported during the past four years than at any former period. In many instances, however, their support has been utterly inadequate and shamefully irregular. The deficiency in these instances has been unquestionably due, in the main, to the want of competent stewards, and of rigorous fidelity on the part of the Quarterly Conference, and not to the want of additional legislation. Our fiscal plan is, in our judgment, a model of practical skill, elaborated by the best minds of the Church from a long series of experiments and observations. All that is necessary to its effectiveness is the conscientious and systematic execution of its details. Its scriptural authority, its principle of general but voluntary assessment, its boards of finance, its required reports, and the regular review of them by Quarterly and Annual Conferences, render it equally pervasive, uniform, and specific in its operations; while it leaves ample margin for the exercise of Christian liberality in providing for the temporal wants of those who "give themselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word." As ministers of the gospel are required to devote themselves wholly to their work; as "the laborer is worthy of his hire;" as the Lord will take account of his stewards; and as the full measure of cheerful labor is needed by the Church, the adequate support of every grade of our itinerant preachers, and furnishing them with comfortable homes, is a sacred and paramount duty, and is essentially necessary to our itinerant system.

Our Sunday-school department has fully kept pace with the progress of the Church in every other direction, if it has not surpassed it in all others. Its indispensable connection with Church growth in the present age has been thoroughly demonstrated in the last four years. It has replenished our membership with its largest numbers and its best materials, and has assumed proportion prophetic of yet grander results. The last General Conference settled, by law, a principle of prime importance when it

defined the relation of Sunday-schools to the pastorate by conferring upon it the right of nominating superintendents.

Our Sunday-school literature has blossomed into great beauty and perfection, equal to the most advanced necessities of the cause, and ought, without exception, to be introduced into all our schools. Its new phase, happily inaugurated by Dr. Haygood, has been successfully developed and improved by Dr. Cunningham, both in matter and form. The adoption of uniform lessons, accompanied with our own interpretation, is at the same time an element of Protestant catholicity and denominational strength. The inculcation of our doctrinal views, by the constant use of our catechisms, remains to complete our system of Sabbath-school instruction. It is of sufficient importance to justify a special enactment on the subject by the General Conference.

The subject of general education, under the patronage of the Church, as a means of success and a powerful agency for good, evinces its importance with every advancing year of her history. The diffused intellectual life of our times, the rapid advancement of classical and scientific knowledge, and the inexorable demand for scholarly attainments amongst both sexes, leave no alternative but to meet the emergency with comprehensive and energetic measures, or surrender the well-earned renown of the past and the glowing hopes of the future. While our literary institutions have retained their integrity, faithfully discharged their duties, and manfully sustained the reputation of the Church, during the past four years, we grieve to say that no signal success has attended them. They have not flourished in proportion to their merits or the hopes of the Church. The majority of them have been embarrassed by debt, feebly patronized by the public, and have consequently been unable to supply themselves with the needed complement of libraries and apparatus, and furnish the desired support for commanding professional talent. The principal cause for this depression has been the general financial stringency of the country, extending itself through the past quadriennium. It is a matter of thanksgiving that they have passed the ordeal so safely, ready to expand with the return of more auspicious times. Yet we are not blameless as a people in this respect. The Church, though diminished in resources, is not poor. She is rich enough, with proper effort, to set afloat and endow every recognized institution amongst us. The fault is the want of intelligent interest and well-devised plans, and not

of ability. The glare of great donations has, perhaps, dazzled us. We do not comprehend the combined value of smaller ones. It behooves the members of this body to take hold of this question with a firm grasp, and arouse the Church to appreciate the responsibility which it involves. We think that these institutions require nothing more to insure their prosperity than a working endowment and a generous patronage. We cannot afford to let them perpetuate a struggling existence, and to remit the education of our youth to skeptical or uncongenial institutions.

The Vanderbilt University, the munificent donation of whose founder was gratefully acknowledged by the last General Conference, and subsequently increased by him to one million dollars, has since gone into operation with gratifying prospects. It is fully endowed, entirely free from debt, comprising all the departments, academical and professional, of a university proper, and possessing all the facilities of the higher education. We trust that, with its superior advantages, it will add efficiency and luster to our educational enterprises.

We regard with deep satisfaction the opportunities which many of our literary institutions afford candidates for the ministry, in preparing them for their high vocation. While the Church does not require attendance upon them as a *sine qua non* for admission into the traveling connection, it is her imperative duty to place such opportunities within their reach as will better enable them to enlarge the sphere of their usefulness, and occupy any positions to which the demands of the age may summon them. The stern logic of events is happily meeting with a response. Our colleges and universities, by general culture, and our biblical schools, by special training, are concurring with our established economy, in supplying us with laborers suitable to every post of ministerial duty. The one should not, and cannot truthfully, say to the other, "I have no need of thee." We have need of all, of every grade of ability, whether of one talent or of five talents, to occupy until the Lord come.

We heartily approve of the plan of district schools, recommended by the last General Conference. They meet the wants of our people, in many localities, for the education of their children. They are the only antidote to that godless feature in the public schools which ignores the Holy Scriptures in the training of youth. They are especially necessary in perfecting our educa-

tional system, by reaching all classes, and preparing students both for our male and female colleges. We are happy to say that many have been established since the recommendation was made.

Our foreign missionary operations are comparatively limited. They do not represent either our history or capacity with respect to the world's evangelization. The separation of the two principal bodies of American Methodism, in 1844, has in effect deprived us of the larger part of our missionary record. Before that event, Southern Methodism participated proportionably in missionary work of the Methodist Episcopal Church abroad, and cultivated almost exclusively the vast field occupied by the colored people in the southern part of the United States. These facts remain in the absence of the record. What we have done since is in addition to the unrecorded portion of our labors in that direction. Our missions in China, in Mexico, and amongst the Indians and Germans of our own country, are in a highly encouraging condition—justify all the expenditures hitherto made in their behalf, and will demand larger appropriations in the future. The mission in Brazil is yet in its infancy. It is judiciously located, and is the nucleus of operations in a vast and thickly-populated region, destitute of the bread of life. It is full of promise, and deserves your fostering care. Amongst these missions, those in China and in Mexico are unquestionably of the greatest prospective importance. Both of these are located in the midst of vast populations, perfectly open to us, with foundations of abundant success already laid. That in China has been recently reënforced. It has received a powerful impulse, both within itself and at home, by the seasonable and successful visit of Bishop Marvin, whose official services, and whose mature and comprehensive views, have placed it before the Church in a new and commanding attitude. The mission amongst the Mexicans is scarcely second to it in its probable results. It already astonishes us by the richness of its first-fruits. Since the last General Conference, Bishop Keener has made three visitations to the City of Mexico in behalf of the missions.

Other doors in foreign lands are open to us, and the wail of their perishing millions resounds in the words of their ancient representative in Macedonia, "Come over, and help us!" We must go or send. The missionary spirit, though operative to the extent indicated, has not yet reached that degree of strength and inten-

sity of interest amongst us which would arouse the whole Church to her responsibilities with respect to the myriads who "sit in the region and shadow of death." The spirit of missions is the life of the Church. To repress it is ultimate paralysis and death.

A new element of success in our foreign missionary operations, of great promise and peculiarly adapted to the exigences of heathen nations, has recently been developed, by a special providence, amongst our pious ladies. We mean the "Woman's Missionary Society." It should, by all means, be incorporated into our present laws on the "Support of Missions."

Restricting the management of Foreign Missions exclusively to a general Board, remitting the oversight of Domestic Missions to Annual Conference Boards, and separating the collections for each, were steps in the right direction. It was a disentanglement of two very different operations, both in theory and practice. We deplore, however, the encroachment of the claims of Domestic Missions upon those of Foreign Missions. The collections for the former are frequently in advance of those of the latter. The number of the Domestic Missions is fortunately diminishing, by their erection or absorption into circuits. And we hope that the confusion of ideas arising from the use of a term common to both, but wholly inappropriate to places of domestic destitution, will pass away forever. The Secretary of our Board of Foreign Missions will lay before you a complete and detailed account of its operations since the last General Conference.

The District Conference has demonstrated its utility in promoting the general interests of the Church, and developing its social elements, whenever it has been properly conducted. Being an annual review of its practical operations, within each Presiding Elder's District, its efficiency depends upon confining its inquiries strictly to the schedule assigned it, and keeping it aloof from all irrelevant and irritating discussions. It should not be invested with any other prerogatives than those which it now possesses, nor complicated with any duties pertaining to Quarterly Conferences; and the business pertaining to it should be formulated in analogy with the directions given to Annual, Quarterly, and Church Conferences.

While Quarterly Conferences should retain their present schedule of duties, it would contribute to the completeness of their functions to require that their journals be submitted to the regular review of the Annual Conferences, in order to correct admin-

istrative and clerical errors, and insure accuracy and uniformity in their records. -

The Church Conference, though operative to a limited extent, yet as a Connectional institution, has not fully realized the object of its enactment. It possesses elements of great utility, and we trust that our preachers and people will earnestly coöperate to make it a blessing to the Church.

We report with unfeigned pleasure the success of the measures adopted by the last General Conference with the view of establishing fraternal relations between the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. The proceedings inaugurating these measures need not now be repeated. They are familiar to all present. At that session the following resolutions were adopted, viz.:

"1. That the General Conference has received with pleasure the fraternal greetings of the Methodist Episcopal Church, conveyed by their delegates, and that our College of Bishops be, and are hereby, authorized to appoint a delegation, consisting of two ministers and one layman, to bear our Christian salutations to their next ensuing General Conference.

"2. That in order to remove all obstacles to formal fraternity between the two Churches, our College of Bishops is authorized to appoint a commission, consisting of three ministers and two laymen, to meet a similar commission authorized by the Methodist Episcopal Church, and to adjust all existing difficulties."

In accordance with the first of these resolutions, the Rev. Lovick Pierce, the Rev. James A. Duncan, and Dr. Landon C. Garland, were appointed fraternal messengers. It was a matter of profound regret that the venerable chairman of that delegation was not permitted, on account of bodily infirmity, to participate in that memorable transaction. The previous history and the existing voice of the Church seemed to demand his presence. The hand of God denied us the privilege. Though absent, he placed his testimony on record, in a communication worthy of his mission and his fame. With what fidelity and honor the other members of the delegation performed their duty needs no commendation from us. The dignity and the responsibility of the occasion were fully met, and their response has been accepted as the utterance of the Church. It casts a shadow of darkness over these pleasant recollections that one of the actors on that occasion, and one of the brightest ornaments of the Church, did not long survive

his greatest achievement. He was suddenly stricken down by death while yet in the meridian of his manhood and his usefulness.

In accordance with the second resolution, the Rev. Edward H. Myers, the Rev. Thomas M. Finney, the Rev. R. K. Hargrove, Hon. R. B. Vance, and Hon. David Clopton, were appointed a commission, on our part, to meet a similar commission appointed by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. These two commissions met, by agreement, at Cape May, August, 1876. After a session of several days, characterized by devout supplication for the divine blessing, a due appreciation of the pending issue, and the exercise of becoming Christian candor, they adopted with entire unanimity, as the basis of reconciliation, the true ecclesiastical *status* of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. This essential factor solved the problem of "formal fraternity," and led to the conclusion which was hailed by the Church as the settlement of the questions submitted to their arbitration. The terms authorizing these commissions were fulfilled, and accordingly their action in the premises must be considered final. The transaction of those commissions, as the historical and official exponent of the present reciprocal relations of the two great branches of American Methodism, is invested with peculiar significance. It illustrates also before the world the genius of the gospel, and especially the filial affection which should ever pervade and animate two families descended from the same parent stock.

It is one of those inscrutable dispensations of Divine Providence which constantly remind us of the contrast between the greatness of his design and the frailty of human instruments, and which admonishes us to "rejoice with trembling," that one who performed so conspicuous a part in the formal pacification of Northern and Southern Methodism, and which embalms his memory, should, immediately after its consummation, have fallen a victim and a martyr to his pastoral fidelity. Dr. Edward H. Myers sleeps in an honored grave. His associates survive to recall his piety and his heroism, and to enjoy the approbation which their services deserved. The whole Church mourns his loss. "Blessed are the peace-makers, for they shall be called the children of God." The report of our commissioners will be laid before you in due time.

The most impressive duty devolved upon the College of Bish-

ops by the last General Conference was contained in the following resolution, viz.:

"Resolved, That the Bishop who may visit the Pacific Conference during the next quadriennium, if deemed advisable by the College of Bishops, also visit our Mission in China, and ordain any native preachers who may be recommended by our missionaries in the field."

We have discharged that duty. Bishop Marvin was selected to fulfill that arduous and responsible errand. Having completed the tour of Annual Conferences on the Pacific Coast, in company with his associate, the Rev. E. R. Hendrix, he embarked for his destination, at San Francisco, November 1, 1876. After a prosperous voyage he arrived at Shanghai, December 14. At a Conference held for the Mission in Shanghai, December 22—the Bishop presiding—four native preachers were elected to deacon's orders, and two of the four were elected to elder's orders. On Sunday, December 24, these candidates were ordained by the Bishop to the respective orders to which they had been elected.

This solemn event was a memorable epoch in the history of the Mission. It reminds us of apostolic times in its simple grandeur and spiritual power. It was the seal and benediction of the Holy Ghost upon the far-distant children of the mother Church through one of her General Superintendents. Bishop Marvin visited the several Mission-stations in China. His presence and counsels were of incalculable benefit to the missionaries and to the converts, and the information which he has imparted to the Church at home concerning the special field of his visitation, and various others, during his extended tour, has enriched the annals of the Church with larger conceptions and a more hallowed appreciation of foreign missionary enterprise. He proved himself fully equal to the extraordinary embassy assigned him, and his name is inscribed upon its imperishable monument.

It is eminently proper that we should refer, in this connection, to a trust committed to him and his associate by the College of Bishops and the Board of Foreign Missions, under the assumed warrant of the General Conference, that they should, on their return, attend the ensuing session of the British Wesleyan Conference, in the city of Bristol, and represent the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in that patriarchal body. They were present at that session, were duly recognized, and in an able and lucid address the Bishop set forth the claims of Southern Methodism to a

coördinate position amongst the Wesleyan families, and requested that a deputation be sent from them to the present General Conference. In lieu thereof, we are informed that a written communication has been sent, which in due time will be transmitted to you.

With emotions too deep for utterance, it is our solemn duty, officially, to announce to you the death of the honored and beloved colleague whose missionary tour we have just reported. He is not here, as we fondly hoped, to recount his own labors. He has finished his course. He has resigned his commission into the hands of his adorable Master. Endowed with exalted abilities, a true soldier of the cross, a faithful servant of the Church, he retired at noon from the battle-field by the command of his Captain, and has gone to join "the general assembly and Church of the first-born, which are written in heaven." That so bright and shining a light should have been so suddenly quenched is one of those problems which await solution in the world to come. His death produced a shock throughout the entire Church, and she will not willingly let his memory perish.

The interest involved in the Publishing House, the perils through which it has passed since the last General Conference, and its continued embarrassment, have made it an object of general solicitude. The Bishops have shared in that solicitude, and have exerted their influence to sustain its reputation. Inasmuch as its vicissitudes are well known, and as a complete statement of its affairs will be presented to you by the Agent, we will not anticipate his report by any details. Our remarks will be general. We have never ceased to attach great importance to the Publishing House as the most available agency for utilizing the power of the press for the cause of Christ, for circulating our unadulterated views of scriptural truth, and for strengthening the bond of Connectional interests amongst our widely-dispersed denomination. We cannot accomplish our mission, as a Church, in the present age, without it, or its equivalent. Its loss would be greater than that of property or financial credit.

With these views, charged with the oversight of the spiritual and temporal interests of the Church, though not specifically authorized to coöperate, we complied with a special request to meet in consultation with the Book Committee, in the city of Nashville, December, 1876, upon the pending crisis of the Publishing House. After patient investigation, and by request of

the committee, we issued an appeal to the Church to raise sixty thousand dollars for its immediate relief. At our regular meeting in May last, in the city of Nashville, not quite half that amount had been realized. In the subsequent report of the Book Agent, and of the Book Committee, we reindorsed the former appeal. At the ensuing Annual Conferences we individually repeated our efforts in the same direction. We regret to say that the responses have not yet met the demand, and that the embarrassment has not been removed. The condition and affairs of the Publishing House will constitute one of the principal subjects for your deliberation. We earnestly hope that some measure will be adopted to save to the Church that great institution, and to perpetuate the benefits of its publications on a firm basis and a wider scale than ever.

We have received from a committee, authorized by the last General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a communication which cannot fail to arrest your attention and awaken your interest. That committee was instructed to consider the subject of an Ecumenical Methodist Conference. They were empowered to speak for and in the name of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, to correspond with the various Methodist bodies in the world, and endeavor to arrange for said Conference, to be held at such time and place as may be judged most advisable, in order to consider topics relating to the position, work, and responsibility of Methodism for the world's evangelization. This communication comes to you from that General Conference through its committee. It proposes a call for a representative council of every Methodist organization throughout the world. It assigns the reason and sets forth the advantages of such a Pan-Methodistic Convention in forcible terms, and solicits your favorable response.

We confess that we are impressed with the moral grandeur and the possible utility of such a movement. There are not less, the document assures us, than twenty-four different ecclesiastical organizations of Methodists, numbering upward of four millions of members, thirty thousand itinerant and sixty thousand local preachers, holding the true Arminian doctrine, and maintaining, more or less, the same usages. It would be an inspiring and profitable occasion to meet their representatives on the grand platform of a common Methodism, and consider the relations of these organizations to each other, to the universal Church, to

the conversion of heathen nations, and to the times in which we live. It would strengthen each other's hands, cement the bond of denominational brotherhood, and consolidate the Methodistic forces for their proper position in the sacramental host of God's elect.

The communication referred to will be transmitted to you by the President of the College of Bishops, and we invoke a careful consideration of it.

We avail ourselves of this occasion to offer you several suggestions in respect to your legislative functions. We are much more concerned about the recognition of a great principle of true policy than about additional enactments; that is, when the existing form of government is salutary and successful, the less the legislation the better.

Our economy, as a whole, is so thoroughly the result of careful experiment and diligent study, and, withal, so homogeneous, that little or nothing more is necessary than to give it consistency, to extend its adaptations, and to increase its executive efficiency. It behooves us to guard against that reckless spirit of innovation so characteristic of our age, which, in conformity with captivating theories, invades even the sanctuary of God, and strives to upset established maxims and cherished convictions, as though government had no foundation in the authority which created it, and is nothing more than the aggregate opinions of those who represent times in which they live. Above all does it behoove a Church distinguished by such a history as ours to maintain its moorings in the solid stratum of its well-tried polity, and not to seek anchorage in the uncertain sands of some tempting hypothesis. The great want of modern Methodism is not new laws, but the new life of its original baptism retained and perpetuated. Were its government to reach ideal perfection without this requisition, it would be but the ghostly shadow of the extinct reality. To subserve this behest is the great object and end of all ecclesiastical legislation.

In strict conformity with this fundamental principle of construction, we commend to your consideration the following special suggestions:

1. That the law restricting the number of charges in a Presiding Elder's District to fourteen be so changed as to admit of a larger number when, in the judgment of the presiding Bishop, it shall be deemed expedient. In the majority of instances, the

present limitation is entirely sufficient. In some cases it could not be judiciously reached at all; in others, it could be transcended with advantage to the Church, without invalidating the true intent and efficiency of the Presiding Elder's office, the full force of which is indispensable to the vigorous operation of our form of government.

2. That in the formation of new Annual Conferences, by the division of older ones, not only the authority to divide be granted by the General Conference, but the act of division be, in every instance, consummated by that body during its session, and be not left to the contingent action of Annual Conferences during the interval of the General Conference. The evils which arise from local and personal preferences would thus, in a great measure, be prevented. It would be better to remit proposed divisions, of doubtful propriety, to a future General Conference than to commit the result to a lower tribunal, and to the hazards of internal agitation, and an unequal distribution.

3. The facility with which Annual Conferences create supernumeraries is a growing evil, and ought to be abated. The relation of supernumeraries is unquestionably abused, by constituting it a mere convenience for disposing of otherwise impracticable cases, and even putting into it those who have not reached the eldership in their ministry, some of whom finally pass, without merit, into the legitimate class of the superannuated, who have "borne the burden and heat of the day." We would recommend the adoption of some measure for lessening this abuse.

4. It would, in our judgment, promote the efficiency of the eldership, in the itinerant ministry, to adopt a post-graduate course of reading, to follow immediately that which now ends with the graduation of elders, with the view of directing the inquiries of our young preachers, and cultivating their habits of study. It is a lamentable fact that many of them, after having attained the grade of elders, cease to study altogether, or do it at random, and fail to realize the promise of their earlier years. This course could be profitably adopted as a useful directory, without the exaction of examinations.

5. The law with respect to receiving members into the Church is, in many cases, too loosely administered. The door is not sufficiently guarded. Inasmuch as all who are received into the Church enter into full *status* as members, the reasons for the precautionary directions laid down in the Discipline are augmented.

Many of our preachers in charge are inexperienced, and others, in the fullness of their zeal, are too anxious to secure the fruits of their labors by inconsiderate and unsuitable accessions. By these and other means improper persons are sometimes taken into the Church, the results of which are pregnant with evil.

6. In such changes of the Discipline as you may see fit to make, we would respectfully call your attention to the character of that portion of it which pertains to the organization of your own body. The introduction of lay delegation was a material reconstruction of the General Conference; and involving, as it was believed, constitutional questions, the whole measure was subjected to constitutional treatment. After receiving a majority of two-thirds of the General Conference of 1866; it was sent round to the Annual Conferences, and, receiving three-fourths of all the votes cast, was adopted as a complete system. This fact places the structure of the General Conference, by necessary implication, under constitutional protection and restriction. The relative composition of the body, and the power of its constituent parts, can hardly be regarded as statutory. The conditions and limitations with which lay delegation became an organic law of the Church may not be so easily changed as mere statutory laws are changed.

7. By the blessing of God, besides attending a large number of District Conferences, we have been enabled to hold all the Annual Conferences during the last four years. If we should not be expected to attend so many of the District Conferences, as heretofore, we see no reason why, with one additional Bishop, the present number of Bishops would not be able to discharge all the duties of the General Superintendency during the next four years. With this statement, we leave the subject to your godly judgment.

Allow us to urge upon you the propriety of abbreviating your session. Let us observe the apostolic maxim, "Not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord." There is, as you are aware, a marked distinction between hurry and haste. What you do, do well. Let us waste no time, but redeem it, because the days are evil. Patiently performing your duties, the Church will be benefited. Delay will curtail the benefit, and deprive your charges of a portion of your valuable time.

And now, dear brethren, "we commend you to God, and to the word of his grace." Great responsibilities rest upon you. You

have assembled, not as secular bodies, nor as political partisans, but under the solemn sanctions of Christ's kingdom. Not the affairs of State, but those of the Church of God, are in a measure committed to your hands. The spiritual welfare of the present and coming generations is the subject of your deliberations. Heaven, earth, and hell, are spectators of your proceedings. You need an eye single to the glory of God, and a body full of light. You need the presence of Christ and the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, who giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering: for he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing from the Lord."

We are, dear brethren, your servants for Jesus' sake,

ROBERT PAINE,
GEORGE F. PIERCE,
HUBBARD H. KAVANAUGH,
WILLIAM M. WIGHTMAN,
DAVID S. DOGGETT,
HOLLAND N. McTYEIRE,
JOHN C. KEENER.

On motion of J. E. Edwards,

Resolved, 1. That so much of the Bishop's Address as relates to our institutions of learning be referred to the Committee on Education.

2. That so much thereof as relates to Sunday-schools be referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

3. That the portion of the Address which relates to our missionary work be referred to the Committee on Missions.

4. That so much as relates to District and Quarterly Conferences be referred to the Committee on Revisal.

5. That so much of the Address as refers to Fraternal Relations be referred to a committee hereafter to be raised on Fraternal Relations; and that so much as relates to the proposed Ecumenical Conference be referred to the same committee.

6. That so much of the Address as relates to the Publishing House at Nashville be referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

7. That the suggestions in conclusion, as to additional legislation, be referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

8. That so much as relates to the election of Bishops be referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

On motion of J. E. Evans,

Resolved, 1. That so much as refers to sinful amusements, family prayer, class-meetings, and kindred subjects, be referred to the Committee on Revisal.

2. That so much as refers to the appointment of Bishop Marvin to visit our Missions in China, and the Wesleyan Methodist Conference in England, and to his much lamented death, be referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

On motion of A. S. Andrews,

Resolved, That so much of the Address as refers to Conference boundaries be referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

On motion of R. A. Young, the Address was ordered to be published in the *Daily Christian Advocate*, and other Church papers.

Bishop Paine then presented a communication which he had received from Bishops Simpson and Ames, and others, a committee of the M. E. Church, favoring an Ecumenical Conference.

The communication was read, and, on motion of W. L. Nugent and C. K. Marshall, it was referred to a special committee of five, appointed by the Chair, as follows: L. M. Lee, N. H. D. Wilson, R. A. Alexander, W. L. Nugent, A. G. Stitt.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That Dr. Redford be requested to deliver to the Committee on Publishing Interests the Record of the Book Committee at Nashville.

B. CRAVEN,

W. F. KORNEGAY.

A. H. Redford presented the stereotype-plate stock account, and the analysis of the business of the Publishing House from 1866 to 1877, by Mr. Dempsey Weaver, a member of the Book Committee, which were referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

D. C. Kelley presented a memorial concerning the Woman's Missionary Society, and Reports of the Board of Missions, and a picture of the Conference held by Bishop Marvin in China—all of which were referred to the Committee on Missions.

J. A. Miller, a clerical delegate from the Louisiana Conference, appeared and took his seat.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop.

Saturday Morning, May 4, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Wightman in the chair.

R. A. Alexander conducted divine service.

The Minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Doggett took the chair.

G. W. Frazer, lay delegate from Florida Conference; F. A. Conner, lay delegate from South Carolina Conference; N. W. Dozier, lay reserve from South Georgia Conference; E. H. Pottle, lay delegate from North Georgia Conference; L. M. Smith and F. Law, lay delegates from Alabama Conference, appeared and took their seats.

W. H. Wheeler took the place of S. M. McGehee on the Committee on Finance.

The Chair called for the Reports of Standing Committees. There were none.

The Reports of Special Committees were called for.

D. C. Kelley presented Report No. 1 of the Committee on Missions, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Your committee beg leave to report the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Rev. E. R. Hendrix be requested, at some time during the session of this General Conference, to deliver an address on Women in Heathendom—together with the opportunities and duties of Christian women for their evangelization.

Resolved, That the chairman of this committee be requested to arrange with the Committee on Public Worship as to time and place for this address, and a suitable programme for the occasion.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

J. B. McFerrin, chairman of the Committee on Publishing Interests, presented the following paper, which was read, and the request contained in it was granted:

On joint motion of Drs. Potter and Finney, the chairman was directed to ask of the General Conference leave to present to it, for purpose of reference to this committee, the investigation made by the expert, Mr. Litton, of the books of the Publishing House, and the history of the Southern Methodist Publishing House as written by Dr. J. B. McFerrin, and other similar papers; and that Dr. A. H. Redford, the Book Agent, be requested to appear before this committee at its next meeting, with any docu-

ments pertaining to the matters now before the committee, in regard to the Publishing House, which he may deem suitable and necessary.

J. E. COBB, Secretary.

Committee Room, May 3, 1878.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Publishing Interests be, and it is hereby, authorized to call for any persons or papers necessary to the thorough investigation of the affairs of the Book Concern.

P. A. PETERSON,

W. E. WAILES,

PAUL WHITEHEAD.

The Chair called for petitions, memorials, and appeals.

The Conferences were called in their order, and the following responded:

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—D. Thomas presented a memorial from Union Charge, Lewisburg District. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—W. W. Bennett presented a memorial of the Virginia Conference, recommending—1. Change of Discipline in regard to Presiding Elders' Districts. 2. Change of Discipline on Trial of Ministers. 3. Change of Discipline on the Third Restrictive Rule on the basis of representation in the General Conference. 4. On Division of Church-property when charges are divided. 5. On the Powers of Appellate Courts. 6. Recommending the appointment of Conference Evangelists. The first and sixth items were referred to the Committee on Itinerancy; and the second, third, fourth, and fifth, to the Committee on Revisal.

L. M. Lee presented a petition from Trinity Church, Richmond, favoring the abolition of the Presiding Elders' office. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. Also another from Trinity Church, Richmond, favoring the removal of the temporal restriction in regard to the pastoral term. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—F. Richardson presented a memorial of that Conference concerning Foreign Missions. Referred to the Committee on Missions. Also one on the Installation of Stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also one on the change of the name of the Church. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also one on preparing a Course of Study for Local Preachers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

G. Stewart presented a petition from Stony Creek Church, Sinking Creek Circuit, Baltimore Conference, asking to be transferred to the Pearisburg Circuit, Holston Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—B. Craven presented a memorial from that Conference on its division. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A. M. Shipp presented a memorial from that Conference, asking a change of Discipline, Chap. V., Sec. 5, page 122, in regard to the organization of Sunday-schools. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also one on licensing local preachers, and on preparing a course of study for them. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also one on the cost of books at the Publishing House. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—C. G. Andrews presented a memorial from that Conference on licensing local preachers, and preparing a course of study for them. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. J. A. Ellis presented a memorial from Enterprise Circuit, favoring the abolition of District Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—H. W. Foote presented a petition from that Conference, and petitions of citizens of Mississippi and Alabama, praying for a change of boundaries between the North Mississippi and North Alabama Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—D. C. Kelley presented a memorial from W. G. Dorriss, on education of colored people. Referred to the Committee on Education.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—C. W. Miller presented a petition, signed by himself, in regard to the appointment of local preachers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also a memorial in regard to a change of Discipline in the order of business of a Quarterly Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

H. P. Walker presented a memorial from the Kentucky Conference on the appointment of Sunday-school superintendents. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—A. H. Redford presented a memorial from Henderson Station, on the publication, in cheap form, of certain parts of the Discipline. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—J. W. Lewis presented a memorial from Salem District Conference, on the constitution of District Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also a memorial from Centenary Church, St. Louis, on extension of the pastoral term. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. Also a petition of St. Louis Conference, on installation of stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

John Hogan presented a memorial from the stewards of the late Carondelet Station, asking if Bishops and Presiding Elders have the right to ignore a pastoral charge. John Hogan moved to refer it to the Committee on Itinerancy. This motion was lost, by a vote of 110 to 121. On motion of J. E. Edwards, it was referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—W. T. Harris presented a memorial on the course of study for local preachers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—T. M. Cobb presented a memorial from Neosho District, on the duties of Presiding Elders, Recording Stewards, and District Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also a memorial from Little Osage Circuit, in relation to a certain legacy. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—W. M. Rush presented a memorial from Hannibal District, on stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also one on the support of the ministry. Referred to the Committee on Finance. Also one from Mexico District, on boundaries. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

DENVER CONFERENCE.—D. Morton presented a memorial from Denver Conference, asking for division of that Conference. Referred to Committee on Boundaries. Also one from Montana District Conference, asking for the division of the Denver Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—A. R. Winfield presented a memorial from Little Rock Conference, in regard to a Church Extension Society. Referred to the Committee on Missions. Also a memorial from the same Conference on publishing a cheap hymn-book. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—H. V. Philpott presented a petition from a local preacher of Chappell Hill Station, on lay delegation. Referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE.—J. C. Simmons presented a memorial

from Visalia District, on the election of delegates to Annual and General Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.—C. Murchison presented a memorial from Illinois Conference, on the change of the name of the Conference. On motion of O. P. Fitzgerald, it was referred to a special committee of thirteen, to whom all similar subjects shall be referred.

On motion of R. N. Price, the memorial from Holston Conference, on the change of the name of the Church, was transferred to the committee of thirteen.

C. Murchison presented a memorial on division of the Illinois Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Also a memorial from Trustees of E. M. College, on Church education. Referred to the Committee on Education.

W. J. T. Miller, lay delegate from North Carolina Conference, appeared and took his seat.

The following resolutions were presented, read, and adopted:

A. Hunter and others offered a resolution, asking the Committee on Revisal to inquire into the expediency of allowing lay members to participate in all the business of Conferences.

Three resolutions of T. J. Magruder and others, asking the Committee on Sunday-schools to inquire into the expediency of amending the Discipline, Chap. V., Sec. 5, Ans. 1, by inserting "or adult persons"—to provide for the attendance of children on public worship, and enlarging the *Sunday School Magazine*.

A resolution of J. E. Edwards and Thos. Branch, asking the Committee on Revisal to inquire into the expediency of amending the Discipline, Chap. VI., Sec. 1, on the Trial of a Bishop.

A resolution of L. M. Wilson and J. E. Edwards, asking the Committee on Revisal to inquire into the propriety of amending Ans. 1, Sec. 1, Chap. II., by inserting the words "next preceding."

On motion of N. H. D. Wilson and B. Craven, it was

Resolved, That daily, immediately after the call for memorials, the roll of the Conferences shall be called for resolutions which the members wish to submit and have referred to the Standing Committees, and that the call begin now.

On motion of W. G. Veal, it was ordered that resolutions be referred without vote, unless objection be made.

J. E. Edwards and Paul Whitehead offered a resolution, instructing the Committee on Revisal to inquire into the expediency of so altering the Discipline, Chap. III., Sec. 4, Ans. 3 to Ques. 1, page 75, as to strike out the words "and that the General Rules be

read at least once a year in every Congregation," and the striking out of the question, "Have the General Rules been read?" on page 59.

P. Whitehead and P. A. Peterson offered a resolution concerning committees of investigation. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

P. A. Peterson and A. R. Winfield offered a resolution deprecating the representation of an Annual Conference in the General Conference by one not a member of the Annual Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

L. S. Reed and R. N. Sledd offered a resolution on the basis of representation in the General Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. E. Edwards and L. S. Reed offered a resolution favoring the reduction of the time of the probation for deacon's orders to one year. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. H. Brunner and P. Gallagher offered a resolution on the ratio of representation in the General Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. H. Bobbitt and others offered a resolution on the election of lay delegates to the General Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. E. Evans and S. Rodgers offered a resolution in regard to "suspension" and other matters. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

C. K. Marshall and T. L. Mellen offered a resolution that a committee of nine be appointed to consider the propriety of having compiled an abridged hymnal for the use of the M. E. Church, South. The resolution was adopted, and the committee of nine was ordered to be appointed by the Bishops.

H. P. Walker and J. W. Fitch offered resolutions in regard to catechumenical classes. Referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

P. P. Ellis and A. T. Winsor offered a resolution on a certificate of membership in Sunday-schools. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

P. P. Ellis and T. M. Cobb offered a resolution on developing a missionary spirit in Sunday-schools. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

C. F. Harvey and J. J. Roberts offered a resolution favoring a change in Ques. 8, Sec. 4, Chap. II., of the Discipline, "What has

been raised the present quarter for other objects?" Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

C. F. Harvey and J. J. Roberts offered a resolution on the appointment of stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. H. Dye, A. R. Winfield, and J. E. Evans, offered a resolution on dispensing with committees of investigation in certain cases. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. H. McLean and others, on change of boundaries of Little Rock and North Texas Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

I. G. John and A. W. Wilson offered a resolution favoring the allowing of one local preacher, at least, in the delegation to the General Conference from every Annual Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. G. Veal and J. D. Shaw offered a resolution on the ratio of representation in the General Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

R. Abbey, special agent for the prosecution of the claim of the Publishing House in Congress, presented his report relating to this subject, which was read, and referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

A communication from the Bishops of the Colored M. E. Church in America was presented by Bishop McTyeire, read, and referred to the Committee on the Ecumenical Conference.

Conference then adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop.

Monday Morning, May 6, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Doggett in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by W. M. Burnett.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

The list of Conferences was called, and J. D. Blackwell, clerical, and R. Pollard, lay delegate, of the Virginia Conference; N. T. Lupton, J. L. Parkes, W. H. Morgan (reserve in place of S. A. Caldwell), lay delegates from the Tennessee Conference; A. B. Stark and J. L. Wheat, lay delegates from the Louisville Conference; H. Clay Ewing, lay delegate from the South-west Missouri Conference; G. N. Lester, lay delegate from the North Georgia Conference, appeared and took their seats.

R. A. Hardaway, lay delegate from the Alabama Conference, was substituted for S. H. Dent on the Committee on Missions.

and F. Law was substituted for R. A. Hardaway on the Committee on Sunday-schools.

A. B. Stark, lay, of the Louisville Conference, was substituted for W. B. Harrison on the Committee on Education. J. J. Davis, lay delegate from the Florida Conference, was substituted for J. J. Dozier on the Committee on Sunday-schools.

On motion of D. C. Kelley, chairman of the Committee on Missions, the paper of the Holston Conference which had been referred to the Committee on Missions was transferred to the Committee on the Ecumenical Conference.

The Chair called for Reports of Standing Committees.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to report:

That they have had under consideration a petition from the Salem District Conference of the St. Louis Annual Conference, asking that the number of laymen constituting the District Conference, and the method of their appointment, be fixed by the Discipline, and not left to the discretion of the Annual Conference; and they respectfully recommend that this Conference do *not* concur.

Also a memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Enterprise Circuit, Mississippi Conference, asking for the abolition of District Conferences; and respectfully recommend *non-concurrence*.

Also a memorial and petition, respectively, from the Holston and St. Louis Annual Conferences, asking for a form to be provided in the Discipline for the public installation of stewards; and respectfully recommend *non-concurrence*.

Also a memorial from the Hannibal District Conference of the Missouri Annual Conference, asking for the election in every circuit and mission of a "steward at large," to be, *ex officio*, District Steward; and respectfully recommend that this Conference do *not* concur.

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

Reports of Special Committees were called for. There were none.

The Chair then called for petitions, memorials, and appeals.

The list of Conferences was called.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—J. S. Martin presented a memorial from that Conference, favoring the expunction from the Discipline of the clause limiting Presiding Elders' Districts to fourteen appointments. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also a memorial on the readmission of expelled persons. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also a memorial on the transfer of territory from that Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—A petition from Jefferson Circuit, deprecating transfer from that Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A memorial from that Conference, on adding Scripture proof to the Articles of Religion. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—J. Boring presented the appeal of David Nolan, who was expelled from that Conference. On motion of J. W. Hinton, the appeal was entertained.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—A petition from two members of the Conference on closing the doors of Annual Conferences during the examination of elders. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—A memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Sardis Station, on the Presiding Eldership. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—A memorial of that Conference on the election of stewards; one on the Presiding Eldership; one on lay delegation. All referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. Also one from the Quarterly Conference of Savannah Station, asking that Quarterly Conferences be required to present their Journals to the District Conferences for examination. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—A petition on Church trials and Quarterly Conference business. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

DENVER CONFERENCE.—The appeal of S. J. Catlin for suspension by that Conference was presented. On motion of S. W. Moore, it was entertained.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial on change of boundary. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial on the organization of a new Mexican Border Conference. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

The roll of Conferences was then called for the presentation of resolutions to be referred to Standing Committees.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—S. Black offered resolutions on the ratio of representation in the General Conference; on the expunction of the sixth Restrictive Rule; on the constitution of Annual Conferences; on the election of lay representatives in Quarterly Conferences; on the constitution and powers of District and Quarterly Conferences, and classes; on the appointment of leaders; on fasting before the admission of preachers into full connection; on the duties of preachers in charge; on transposing certain sections of the Discipline. All referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—E. A. Yates and J. D. Giddings offered resolutions on catechumenical instruction, and on a form for opening and closing Sunday-schools. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

B. Craven offered resolutions on the licensing and trial of local preachers, and on reporting accessions to the Church. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also resolution concerning the Joint Board of Finance, and distribution of Conference funds. Referred to the Committee on Finance. Also on the Ecumenical Conference. Referred to the Committee on Ecumenical Conference.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—W. F. Cook and W. H. Potter offered a resolution on the expediency of organizing a Sunday-school Union. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—J. B. McGehee and others offered a resolution on the organization and duties of District Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also one on financial plans, opposing Church fairs, etc. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

J. B. McGehee and N. W. Dozier offered a resolution on a specific rule concerning worldly amusements. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. O. A. Clark offered a resolution on the pastoral instruction of children. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

Resolutions were offered by J. W. Hunter and others, on the trial and appeal of preachers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. On Domestic Missions and support of the ministry. Referred to the Committee on Missions. On the trial of local preachers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. On the size

of Presiding Elders' Districts. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—J. W. Rush, S. H. Dent, and others, offered a resolution on ministerial relations. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

F. Law and H. D. Moore offered a resolution on the election of superintendents of Sunday-schools. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

R. A. Hardaway and S. H. Dent offered a resolution on lay representation in the General Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

H. D. Moore and S. H. Dent offered a resolution on the proceedings of Quarterly Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. E. Wailes and J. W. Rush offered a resolution on the election of stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—J. E. Groce and J. B. Stevenson offered a resolution on fasting and prayer. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—R. Abbey and W. H. Watkins offered a resolution on the Church-membership of children. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

C. K. Marshall and C. D. Oliver offered a resolution favoring the publication of the History of the M. E. Church, South. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

W. L. Nugent and J. A. Ellis offered three resolutions on the basis of representation. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

T. L. Mellen, C. K. Marshall, and others, offered a resolution to secure the meeting of District Stewards in the District Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—H. W. Foote and J. D. Cameron offered a resolution on the constitution of the General Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. Y. Murry, P. P. Ellis, and M. H. Neely, offered a resolution favoring the holding of a temperance meeting. Referred to the Committee on Temperance.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—T. L. Boswell and W. T. Harris offered a resolution favoring the restoration of the clause in the Discipline, "Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life?" Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

T. L. Boswell and A. H. Thomas offered a resolution on receiving members. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—W. Mooney, J. B. Allison, and others, offered a resolution on the presidency of Quarterly Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—H. P. Walker and C. W. Miller offered a resolution on sending records of Quarterly Conferences to the Annual Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

H. P. Walker, J. W. Fitch, and others, offered a resolution on questions propounded by Annual Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

H. P. Walker and S. X. Hall offered a resolution on boundaries between the Kentucky and Louisville Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

J. W. Fitch and S. X. Hall offered a resolution on the baptism of infants. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—A. H. Redford, N. H. Lee, and B. M. Messick, offered a resolution on the representation of local preachers and lay delegates in General Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. S. Johnson and A. B. Stark offered a resolution on changing the General Rule in regard to drunkenness. Referred to the Committee on Temperance.

N. H. Lee, A. H. Redford, and G. H. Hayes, offered a resolution on the transfer of Shelbyville District from Kentucky to Louisville Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

B. M. Messick and H. C. Settle offered a resolution on the business of Quarterly Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—A. T. Winsor and P. P. Ellis offered a resolution on the relation of pastors to Sunday-schools. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

M. Adkisson and T. M. Cobb offered a resolution on change of the order of business in Quarterly Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—W. W. Jones and W. M. Rush offered a resolution on the duties of Bishops. On motion of J. E. Evans, referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

B. H. Spencer and T. M. Cobb offered a resolution on the mode

of publishing Episcopal decisions. On motion of H. F. Johnson, it was referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

J. D. Vincil presented a resolution of the Missouri Conference on revision of the Hymn-book. Referred to the Committee on the Hymnal. Also one on the Ecumenical Conference. Referred to the Committee on the Ecumenical Conference.

C. I. Vandeventer and P. P. Ellis, a resolution on the election of only one Bishop. Referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

W. O. Gray and P. P. Ellis, a resolution on representation in the General Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

P. P. Ellis and J. Y. Murry offered a resolution on amending the General Rule on buying and selling liquors. Referred to the Committee on Temperance.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—J. H. McLean, A. R. Winfield, and others, offered a resolution respecting the town of Texarkana. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—D. H. Connally and R. W. Thompson offered a resolution on the duties of the Joint Board of Finance. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—J. S. Gillett and P. C. Woods offered a resolution on a change of the constitution of the Board of Missions. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

J. S. Gillett and D. H. Connally offered a resolution on the reception of ministers and members from other Methodist bodies. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

H. S. Thrall and J. S. Gillett offered a resolution on readjusting the boundaries between the West Texas and the North-west Texas Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

J. S. Martin, S. Rodgers, and A. W. Wilson, offered a resolution, "that after Monday, May 13, the call for memorials, petitions, and appeals, be discontinued for the remainder of the session of this General Conference."

A motion of E. A. Yates to lay on the table was lost, by a vote of 107 for, and 116 against.

A motion of A. S. Andrews to amend, by adding the words "of the Conferences" after the word "call," did not prevail.

After considerable discussion, the resolution was adopted.

A motion of J. E. Evans to raise a special committee to whom certain constitutional questions may be referred, and not to the Committee on Revisal, did not prevail.

On motion of A. W. Wilson, it was ordered that they be referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

On motion of J. E. Edwards, Report No. 2 of the Committee on Credentials was taken up.

The report was then read, also the amendment of S. Regester, which was under discussion on Friday, May 3, when it was suspended by the order of the day.

J. W. Lewis, who had the floor at the time of the suspension, resumed his speech. At its close, S. Regester was allowed to withdraw his amendment. He offered the following substitute:

Whereas, Logan D. Dameron, a lay delegate from the St. Louis Conference, is already enrolled; and whereas, the question of his eligibility to a seat in this General Conference is a question of the construction of law, in regard to which there is difference of opinion among members equally conscientious and intelligent:

Resolved, That the consideration of this question be indefinitely postponed.

C. R. Head moved to lay the substitute on the table.

A motion of Thos. Branch, calling for the yeas and nays, was laid on the table.

The motion to lay the substitute on the table prevailed, 163 for and 80 against.

On motion of J. B. McFerrin, the time was extended ten minutes.

W. L. Nugent moved to recommit the report, with instructions.

J. W. Hinton obtained the floor.

The question was made the order of the day for Wednesday, May 8, at 10 o'clock.

The time of adjournment having arrived, Bishop Doggett announced the following committees:

Committee on the Name of the Church: O. P. Fitzgerald, W. M. Rush, R. Alexander, A. W. Wilson, Andrew Hunter, C. Murchison, A. S. Andrews, R. K. Hargrove, R. S. Finley, E. E. Wiley, C. D. Oliver, H. F. Johnson, O. A. Darby.

Committee on the Hymn-book: C. K. Marshall, S. S. Roszell, F. M. Kennedy, Joseph B. West, Joseph S. Key, T. M. Finney, A. R. Winfield, A. G. Haygood, John D. Blackwell.

Bishop McTyeire announced the Committee on the Appeal of D. Nolan—the Assistant Secretary, A. G. Haygood, to meet with the committee.

Committee on the Appeal of D. Nolan: S. Rodgers, L. S. Reed, T. S. Wade, Geo. Stewart, W. S. Black, O. A. Darby, W. F. Cook, J. B. McGehee, S. W. Moore, W. A. McCarty, J. M. Boland, J. E. Cobb, J. A. Ellis, Wm. Murrah, W. T. Harris, J. B. Allison, J. W. Fitch, G. H. Hayes, T. M. Finney, M. Adkisson, W. W. Jones, T. C. Downs, W. W. Smith, J. H. Walker, J. J. Roberts, J. M. Steel, E. N. Watson, M. H. Neely, R. W. Thompson, R. Alexander, T. Stanford, J. S. Gillett, J. B. A. Ahrens, W. B. Kavanaugh, J. C. Simmons, J. W. Compton, B. R. Hester.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop.

Tuesday Morning, May 7, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by J. B. A. Ahrens.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

On motion of the Secretary, W. C. Johnson, reserve delegate from the Memphis Conference, was elected an assistant secretary, and also to assist the editor of the *Daily Christian Advocate*.

Bishop Keener took the chair.

He called for Reports of Standing Committees.

S. Regester, chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read, and, on motion of J. E. Evans and N. H. D. Wilson, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 ON EPISCOPACY.

The Committee on Episcopacy report:

1. A paper containing resolutions asking for the preparation of a catechism for the baptized children of the Church, signed by H. P. Walker and J. W. Fitch, was referred to the Committee on Episcopacy, the consideration of which properly belongs to the Committee on Sunday-schools, and it is returned to the Conference that it may be referred to that committee.

2. The paper signed by W. W. Jones and W. M. Rush, asking for a law in the Discipline to determine how an Episcopal District, being without a Superintendent, from any cause, should be provided for, was fully considered. The committee determined that no legislation was necessary.

3. The paper signed by B. H. Spencer and T. M. Cobb, recommending change in the Discipline, so as to provide for publishing

Episcopal decisions as an appendix to the Discipline, was fully considered. The committee does not concur in the proposed change.

S. REGISTER, Chairman.

S. S. BRYANT, Secretary.

J. S. Martin, chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read, and, on motion of J. E. Evans, acted upon item by item.

Item 1 was taken up, read, and W. G. Veal moved its adoption.

W. M. Rush moved to amend by striking out "non."

On motion of E. A. Yates, that motion was laid on the table.

A motion of J. B. McFerrin to lay the entire report on the table was lost.

Item 1 was then adopted.

Item 2 was taken up, and, on motion of J. D. Giddings, was adopted.

Item 3 was taken up, and J. E. Edwards moved to amend by striking out "non." After some discussion, J. E. Evans moved the previous question—the motion prevailed—the question was put, on the amendment, which was lost.

Item 3 was adopted.

The report, as a whole, was then adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy beg leave to report that they have carefully considered several papers referred to them with the following results, viz.:

1. In the case of a petition from the Tennessee Conference, asking that the Discipline be so changed as "not to allow any preacher to exercise the office of Presiding Elder in any one Conference for more than four years consecutively," the committee respectfully recommend non-concurrence.

2. In the case of a memorial from the Tennessee Conference, asking the General Conference "to declare all lay members of our financial boards *ex officio* members of their several Annual Conferences, with all the rights and privileges of other lay delegates," the committee recommend non-concurrence

3. In the memorial from the Virginia Conference, asking "that the Bishops be empowered to appoint an *evangelist* to operate within the bounds of an Annual Conference, where in their judgment the necessities of the work demand such an agency, and

the Conference shall recommend the appointment," your committee recommend non-concurrence.

JOHN S. MARTIN, Chairman.

C. G. ANDREWS, Secretary.

A motion of L. M. Lee, that no reports of Standing Committees be acted upon till published, did not prevail.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Missions was presented by the chairman, D. C. Kelley, read, and laid on the table under the rule.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read, and laid on the table under the rule.

A paper signed by J. E. Edwards and Thos. Branch, which had been referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools, on motion of J. S. Key, was transferred to the Committee on Revisal.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read, and, on motion of W. W. Garland, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 ON FINANCE.

Your committee would respectfully report that they have had under consideration a resolution signed by D. H. Connally and R. W. Thompson, referred to said committee, as to the propriety of changing the latter portion of the first paragraph of Sec. 5, page 160, of the Discipline, on the organization of the Joint Board of Finance of the Annual Conferences, so that it shall read, "to hold their office until the expiration of four Conference-years;" and also a resolution of the North Carolina Conference upon the same subject, which was also referred to said committee; and have directed me to report that they recommend non-concurrence therein.

ROBT. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

The Chair then called for petitions, memorials, and appeals.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—H. J. Adams presented a memorial from R. W. Bigham, W. T. Hamilton, and others, on Church papers. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—J. W. Hinton presented a petition from the pastors and members of Methodist Churches in Savannah, Ga., asking for the appointment of an agent for the Wesley Monumental Church.

J. O. A. Clark presented a memorial from the venerable Lovick Pierce, concerning said church.

Both documents were read, referred to the Committee on Itinerancy, and ordered to be printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate*.

A communication from the Hon. N. L. Angier, Mayor of the city of Atlanta, was presented by the Bishop, and read, as follows:

MAYOR'S OFFICE, ATLANTA, GA., May 7, 1878.

To the President of the General Conference M. E. Church, South.

REV. SIR:—Feeling our city highly honored, and especially favored, by the presence of so august an assemblage, it affords me great pleasure to transmit herewith a certified copy of a resolution unanimously adopted by the General Council of Atlanta last night. Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. L. ANGIER, Mayor.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, May 6, 1878.

Resolved, by the General Council of the City of Atlanta, As there is now in session in this city the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South, one of the largest, most influential and intelligent bodies of men that have ever honored Atlanta with their presence, composed as it is of ministers of the gospel, statesmen, lawyers, doctors, merchants, etc., that a cordial welcome and the freedom of the city are hereby extended to the members of said assembly, and that His Honor the Mayor be requested to communicate the same to said body.

Passed in Council.

FRANK T. RYAN, City Clerk.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted, by a rising vote:

Resolved, That we gratefully accept the freedom and hospitalities of Atlanta, this day tendered by resolution communicated from the Mayor and General Council of the city; and that the Secretary of this Conference be directed to transmit to the Mayor and Council a copy of this resolution.

P. A. PETERSON,

C. K. MARSHALL.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—A memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Carrollton Circuit, deprecating the change of boundary prayed for by the North Mississippi Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

A memorial signed by W. Baker, asking the restoration of the question, "Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life?" Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—A memorial from James A. Lanins

and others, of St. Louis, concerning the rulings of Presiding Elders and Bishops, as touching and affecting the rights of individual membership in the M. E. Church, South. Referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

T. M. Finney presented a memorial from Iron Mountain District Conference, protesting against the expunction of the temporal restriction of the pastoral term. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

DENVER CONFERENCE.—A petition of E. J. Stanley, Montaña, praying for the organization of a new Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial of C. F. Harvey, and others, on paying the debt of the Publishing House. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial from Texas Conference relative to the boundary of that Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial from North-west Texas Conference, deprecating the change of boundary prayed for by the Texas Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.—C. Murchison presented an appeal of T. B. Harbin from his suspension for six months by that Conference. The appeal was entertained.

The Chair then called for resolutions in the order of the Conferences.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—P. H. Whisner and S. Rodgers offered a resolution on supernumerary and superannuated preachers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also one on the examination of candidates for admission on trial in Annual Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—P. Whitehead and J. E. Edwards offered a resolution on the readmission of expelled ministers and members. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

R. N. Sledd, T. Branch, and L. S. Reed, offered a resolution on the expediency of publishing a Quarterly Review. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—E. A. Yates and W. H. Bobbitt offered a resolution inquiring into the expediency of amending the Discipline on the trial of local preachers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

B. Craven and A. W. Wilson offered a resolution favoring the publication of a Quarterly Review. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A. M. Chrietzberg and O. A. Darby offered a resolution on the chairman of the Joint Board of Finance. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also one on the order of business of Quarterly Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

H. A. C. Walker and P. A. Peterson offered resolutions on sundry changes of Discipline. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—H. J. Adams and T. M. Meriwether offered a resolution respecting the number of charges in Districts. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

H. J. Adams and J. C. Johnson offered a resolution on changes as to lay representation. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

W. F. Cook and J. W. Hinton offered a resolution favoring the election of two Secretaries of the Board of Missions. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

J. S. Key and J. Boring offered a resolution favoring the consolidation of the two Boards of Missions, and the taking of but one collection. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

J. S. Key, J. B. McGehee, and others, offered a resolution deprecating the multiplication of churches on a circuit. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. B. McGehee and J. A. Ellis offered a resolution on lay agency, for the relief of pastors from excessive table-serving. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE.—J. W. Taylor and G. W. Frazer offered a resolution in regard to District Stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A. A. Robinson and T. L. Boswell offered a resolution concerning Church trials. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—W. A. McCarty and J. W. Rush offered resolutions respecting the trial of members. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also one on admitting preachers into full connection. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—J. A. Ellis and S. B. Watts offered a resolution on the distribution of Conference funds. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

H. F. Johnson and T. L. Mellen offered a resolution on grant-

ing honorable location to preachers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

T. L. Mellen and W. H. Watkins offered a resolution on the expediency of adding a question on Annual Conference business. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

C. K. Marshall and C. G. Andrews offered a resolution urging a strict conformity to the directory in conducting public worship, and providing for the same. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—A. H. Thomas and T. L. Boswell offered a resolution on the term of the Presiding Eldership. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also one concerning District Stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A. P. Warterfield and H. A. C. Walker offered a resolution concerning the collection of Presiding Elders' salaries. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

D. G. Godwin and A. H. Thomas offered a resolution concerning trustees. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

S. W. Moore and W. W. Bennett offered a resolution on the expediency of revising the Hymn-book. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—D. C. Kelley presented a communication from the Treasurer of the Board of Missions, concerning the bequest of J. T. Colvin. Referred to the Committee on Missions. Also a communication from the Rev. J. W. Lambuth, Shanghai, China, which was ordered to be printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate*.

E. D. Patterson and C. R. Head offered a resolution on representation in the General Conference. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—C. W. Miller and H. P. Walker offered a resolution favoring the readjustment of Annual Conference questions.

H. P. Walker and C. W. Miller offered a resolution concerning the trial of members. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

S. X. Hall and J. W. Fitch offered a resolution on making Presiding Elders members of Conference Mission Boards. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—A. H. Redford presented a statement of losses sustained by the Publishing House from 1858 to 1862. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

J. Boring moved to suspend the order of business to allow him to move an order of the day for to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

P. A. Peterson moved to amend by adding the words "to take up Report No. 2 of the Committee on Credentials." This amendment was lost.

A motion of W. O. Gray, to lay the motion on the table, did not prevail.

A motion of H. J. Adams, to amend by substituting 11 o'clock, was laid on the table.

The motion of J. Boring prevailed, and the Report No. 2 of the Committee on Credentials was made the order of the day for to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

On motion of J. E. Evans, L. M. Lee, at his own request, in consequence of infirmity, was relieved from the Committee on the Ecumenical Conference, of which he was chairman, and Paul Whitehead was appointed in his place.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—G. W. Beard and W. S. Johnson offered a resolution on the support of preachers. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—A. R. Winfield and C. D. Oliver offered a resolution requesting Dr. Pierce to give us his matured views on Entire Sanctification in his sermon before the Conference.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—H. V. Philpott, J. D. Giddings, and J. C. C. Winch, offered a resolution on the duties of Presiding Elders. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also one concerning lay representation in Annual Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—S. Rodgers and J. B. McFerrin offered a resolution referring to forms of Church records. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

A motion of J. E. Evans to suspend the roll-call for resolutions was laid on the table.

S. F. Jones, lay delegate from Denver Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence.

Bishop Pierce announced the substitution of H. V. Philpott for R. Alexander on the Committee on Appeals.

The time was extended to allow Mr. Cupples to make a report of collections for the Marvin Memorial Fund.

Conference then adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop.

Wednesday Morning, May 8, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Keener in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by T. L. Boswell.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop Paine took the chair.

W. H. Morrow, lay delegate from the Tennessee Conference; John R. Pace, lay delegate from the Virginia Conference, and Linus Parker, clerical delegate from the Louisiana Conference, appeared and took their seats.

On motion of W. P. Harrison, the order of business was suspended to allow him to introduce the following resolution:

Resolved, That the right of a delegate to a seat in this body should be determined by a majority of the whole Conference, and not by concurrent majorities of the clerical and lay delegates voting separately.

W. P. HARRISON,

W. F. COOK.

W. L. Nugent called for a separate vote.

E. A. Yates moved the previous question. The motion prevailed.

The call for a separate vote was sustained.

Pending the action, the order of the day—being the consideration of the question of recommitting Report No. 2 of the Committee on Credentials, before the Conference at the time of adjournment Monday, May 6—having arrived, was taken up.

J. W. Hinton, who had the floor, spoke against recommitment.

He was followed by W. M. Rush, who spoke in favor of recommitment.

Pending his speech the time expired, but on motion of J. B. McFerrin, it was extended.

Bishop Pierce took the chair during the speech of W. M. Rush, and at its close Bishop Paine resumed it.

J. O. A. Clark spoke for recommitment; S. H. Dent against. His time having expired, on motion of J. J. Davis, it was extended ten minutes, to allow him to close his speech.

A. R. Winfield spoke for recommitment; P. A. Peterson against; J. B. McFerrin for; J. E. Evans against.

Bishop Pierce took the chair.

T. M. Meriwether moved to lay the motion to recommit on the table; the vote stood 106 for, 149 against.

J. E. Evans moved the previous question—the motion was sus-

tained—the question was taken, and the motion to recommit prevailed.

O. R. Blue, at his own request, on motion of A. R. Winfield, was excused from serving on the Committee on Credentials.

Asa Holt, at his own request, on account of an accident, on motion of J. H. McLean, was also excused from serving on said committee.

On motion of J. D. Giddings, the Committee on Credentials was increased from seven to twenty-one.

On motion of N. H. D. Wilson, the session was extended fifteen minutes.

Thos. Branch, at his own request, was excused from serving on the Committee on Credentials.

The following resolution offered by W. F. Cook was read, and on motion of S. X. Hall, was laid on the table:

Resolved, That the Committee on Credentials be instructed by this Conference to inquire whether a court of equity can review the decision of a lower court where no bill of review has been filed for this purpose.

The following resolution was offered, read, and on motion of L. M. Lee, was laid on the table:

Resolved, That the College of Bishops be requested to communicate their opinion upon the point whether it is competent for this General Conference to inquire into the facts of any Church trial which has taken place before any inferior tribunal, the decision of which is not before the General Conference in the way of appeal.

P. WHITEHEAD,
W. W. BENNETT.

The following resolution was then offered and read:

Resolved, That the Committee on Credentials be instructed to consider whether the trial of L. D. Dameron was regular and in accordance with the law of the Church.

W. M. RUSH,
B. H. SPENCER.

Pending action on this resolution, the time expired, and Conference adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Thursday Morning, May 9, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Paine in the chair. Divine service was conducted by Linus Parker.

The Minutes were read and approved.

James M. Richards, lay delegate from North-west Texas Conference; Robert Paine, jr., lay delegate from North Mississippi Conference, and E. Y. McMorris, lay reserve delegate in place of Price Williams, from Alabama Conference, appeared and took their seats.

Leave of absence was granted to A. S. Andrews (to visit a sick member of his Church), W. J. Swain, lay delegate from North Texas Conference (on account of urgent business), and J. B. McBryde, lay delegate from Illinois Conference.

The Chair announced the names of the members of the Committee on Credentials, as ordered yesterday, to wit:

Committee on Credentials: S. Regester, Chairman; W. H. Potter, H. W. Foote, W. H. N. Magruder, H. F. Johnson, L. Parker, W. B. Harrison, Alpheus Wilson, P. Hamil, R. K. Hargrove, John Rodman, C. W. Miller, J. H. Carlisle, J. D. Giddings, R. A. Hardaway, I. Hardeman, W. F. Easterling, Paul Whitehead, Thomas Stanford, R. Pollard, E. L. T. Blake.

E. L. T. Blake, at his own request, on account of sickness, was excused from serving on this committee, and another was to be appointed in his place.

The Chair made some judicious remarks in regard to abstention from passion and the government by law and reason, which were well received by the members.

Bishop Pierce took the chair.

A letter from the Rev. F. H. M. Henderson, Fraternal Messenger from the Methodist Protestant Church, was received and referred to the Committee on Introductions.

The Chair then called for Reports of Standing Committees.

S. Regester, chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read, and on motion of J. D. Giddings, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 2 ON EPISCOPACY.

The Committee on Episcopacy would respectfully report that a memorial, signed by James A. Lanius and others, of St. Louis, Mo., "concerning the rulings of Presiding Elders and Bishops, as touching and affecting the rights of individual membership in the M. E. Church, South," was referred to this committee.

Upon examination, it was found that no name of any Bishop was given, nor the case in which, the place where, or the time when, the irregularities complained of were stated to have

occurred; nor does the paper refer to any testimony by which its statements could be substantiated.

The memorial is returned to your honorable body as being too indefinite for any action thereon. S. REGESTER, Chairman.

S. S. BRYANT, Secretary.

J. S. Martin, chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read, and on motion of J. B. McFerrin, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 2 ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy respectfully report that they have had under consideration the memorial of the pastors and churches in Savannah, Georgia, and that of Rev. Dr. Lovick Pierce, on the Wesley Monumental Church, and, as the result of their deliberations, respectfully ask the adoption of the following, viz.:

Resolved, That the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in General Conference assembled, at Atlanta, Georgia, May 9, 1878, indorse the Wesley Monumental Church at Savannah, Georgia, and commend it to Methodists the world over, as an enterprise eminently proper, and meeting our hearty approval.

Resolved, That the Bishops be, and they are hereby, authorized, when they deem it expedient, to appoint an agent to represent this memorial church to Wesley, and solicit the aid of Methodists everywhere to bring it to an early completion.

JOHN S. MARTIN, Chairman.

C. G. ANDREWS, Secretary.

W. S. Black, chairman of the Committee on Boundaries, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read, and lies on the table under the rule.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 3 of that committee, which was read.

A minority report was also presented and read.

On motion of J. B. McFerrin, both reports were laid on the table for the present.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 4 of that committee, which was read, and lies on the table under the rule.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read, and laid on the table for the present—as also a Minority Report.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 3 of that committee, which was read, and, on motion of A. H. Thomas, was laid on the table for the present.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 4 of that committee, which was read, and, on motion of W. O. Gray, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 4 ON FINANCE.

Your Finance Committee have carefully considered a resolution of the North Carolina Conference, and a resolution signed by John A. Ellis and S. B. Watts, respecting the distribution of the Conference fund by the Joint Board of Finance of the several Conferences, and have instructed me to report that they recommend non-concurrence therewith, as they believe the Discipline upon the subject and the action of the several Joint Boards of Finance do now and can thereunder fully accomplish the ends desired to be attained.

R. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 5 of that committee, which was read, and, on motion of W. G. Veal, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 5 ON FINANCE.

Your committee have carefully considered a resolution signed by J. B. McGehee and John A. Ellis, instructing the Committee on Finance to consider the propriety "of maturing some plan that will utilize the lay element in lifting the collections ordered in our Discipline, and thereby leave the ministry to give themselves wholly to the great work to which Christ has called them," and are of the opinion that the lay element is *tolerably well utilized* whenever the collections ordered in our Discipline are lifted, and have instructed me to report that they consider no action in this behalf required, and that they recommend non-concurrence therewith.

R. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 6 of that committee, which was read, and, on motion of N. T. Lupton, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 6 ON FINANCE.

Your Finance Committee have had under consideration a reso-

lution signed by George W. Beard, W. S. Johnson, and John L. Wheat, that there be added to Item 2, Sec. 1, Chapter IX., page 155, the following: "And the Board of Stewards shall, when there is a parsonage, embrace in their estimate for the support of the preachers the annual rent of the parsonage, which shall be credited quarterly to the charge, and at the end of the year shall be reported to the Annual Conference;" and have instructed a report that they recommend non-concurrence therewith.

R. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 7 of that committee, which was read, and, on motion of J. S. Gaunt, was laid on the table for the present. Also a minority report, signed J. C. Gaut and J. C. C. Winch, which was also laid on the table for the present.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 8 of that committee, which was read, and laid on the table under the rule.

A. H. Redford presented a report on the Colvin bequests to several interests of the Church, which was read, and the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That so much of the will of the late J. T. Colvin containing bequests to the M. E. Church, South, be referred severally to the Committees on Publishing Interests, Missions, Sunday-schools, and Itinerancy.

C. I. VANDEVENTER,

J. D. VINCIL.

A. H. Redford presented the Exhibit of the expert concerning the business of the Publishing House with the Depository at New Orleans, which was referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

The Chair then called for petitions, memorials, and appeals.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—B. Craven presented a memorial from Salisbury District, on division of the Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries. He also presented a petition from the Bremaker-Moore Paper Company, Louisville, on matters touching the interests of the Publishing House. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests. He also presented a resolution of the North Carolina Conference, deprecating any change in the name of the Church. Referred to the Committee on the Name of the Church.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—H. Brown presented a memo-

rial from the Quarterly Conferences of Tuscaloosa Station and Northport Circuit, deprecating the change of boundary asked for by the North Mississippi Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—L. Parker presented a memorial from the New Orleans District Conference, touching the appointment of class-leaders. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—J. Barcroft presented a memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Blackland Circuit, deprecating any action abolishing the office of Presiding Elder. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

The call for resolutions to be referred to committees was then made, and responded to as follows:

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—R. Pollard and T. W. Mason offered a resolution in reference to Sunday-school publications. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—S. Black and J. B. McFerrin presented resolutions, in two papers, respecting the bounds of Districts, changes in the Ritual, and other matters. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also several resolutions, in a third paper, respecting salaries of Presiding Elders and other matters. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

T. S. Wade and J. S. McCarver offered a resolution respecting the employment of a missionary at large in an Annual Conference. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—F. Richardson, J. P. Kelley, and others, offered a resolution in regard to the boundary between the Tennessee and Holston Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

George Stewart, F. Richardson, and T. P. Summers, offered a resolution on the ratio of representation in the General Conference, rights of lay members, District Conferences, and other matters. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

J. W. Paulett, C. R. Head, and J. W. Gaut, offered a resolution concerning the employment of a traveling agent for the Publishing House. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—S. Black, W. H. Bobbitt, and others, offered a resolution on the sale of District property. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—J. S. Key and J. Boring offered

a resolution asking of the Bishops an opinion on the law of election of lay delegates. Referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

H. A. Crittenden, J. M. Mathews, and others, offered a resolution on the work of local preachers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—W. W. Duncan and O. A. Darby offered resolutions in relation to the eligibility of local preachers to deacon's and elder's orders. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE.—A. A. Robinson and T. L. Boswell offered a resolution on a change in the mode of Church trials. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A. A. Robinson and J. J. Davis offered a resolution proposing an appendix to the Discipline containing the doctrines peculiar to Methodism. Referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—W. H. N. Magruder and J. L. Wheat offered a resolution on the duty of preachers relating to education. Referred to the Committee on Education.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—W. H. Watkins and C. G. Andrews offered a resolution on publishing the form of baptism and reception of members in the Hymn-book. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

W. L. Nugent and J. A. Ellis offered a resolution on collections for the Publishing House. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

J. B. Streater and J. D. Cameron offered a resolution on a complete course of study for Sunday-schools. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—A. H. Thomas, R. H. Mahon, and others, offered a resolution favoring certain changes in the office of Baptism. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—R. K. Hargrove and W. Burr offered a resolution on the duties of Recording Stewards. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

R. K. Hargrove, J. B. McFerrin, and D. C. Kelley, offered a resolution favoring alternate Lessons in the Burial Service. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—C. W. Miller and J. W. Fitch offered a resolution favoring certain changes in the office of Baptism.

H. P. Walker and J. L. Wheat offered a resolution on the pub-

lication of a digest of Bishops' decisions. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

A. B. Stark and J. H. Brunner offered a resolution on publishing a Review. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

W. S. Johnson and W. H. Watkins offered a resolution on the basis of representation. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—H. C. Ewing and A. T. Winsor offered a resolution on changing the words April or May, on page 34 of the Discipline, to "January or February." Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

G. M. Jones, C. K. Marshall, and T. M. Cobb, offered a resolution favoring one Hymn-book for all Methodists. Referred to the Committee on Ecumenical Conference.

A. T. Winsor and J. F. Rucker offered a resolution on the trial of members. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—C. I. Vandeventer, P. P. Ellis, and J. F. Rucker, offered a resolution on salaries of General Conference officers. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

C. I. Vandeventer and W. O. Gray offered a resolution on the support of foreign missionaries by Annual Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

W. A. Tarwater, J. D. Vincil, and W. W. Jones, offered a resolution concerning admission into the traveling connection. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—A. R. Winfield and R. Lane offered a resolution on defining the position of our Church on temperance. Referred to the Committee on Temperance.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—R. Lane, Asa Holt, and others, offered a resolution on a change of the southern boundary of said Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—W. G. Veal and J. S. McCarver offered a resolution on representation in District Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—J. C. C. Winch and J. D. Giddings offered a resolution on pastors' work in Sunday-schools. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

The question on which Conference adjourned yesterday was taken up.

W. M. Rush was permitted to withdraw the resolution then under consideration.

The following resolution was then presented and read:

Resolved, That the Committee on Credentials be instructed to consider and report:

1. Whether the offense alleged against L. D. Dameron was, in itself, a "gross immorality."

2. Whether any person can be legally tried and expelled from the Church for an offense not "expressly forbidden in the word of God," and not, in itself, "sufficient to exclude a person from the kingdom of grace and glory."

3. Whether, since the one specification of the first charge and the two specifications of the second charge involve the same principles, and rest on the same facts, and all of the said specifications come within the provision of Chapter VI., Section 5, second answer to Question 1, page 142 of the Discipline—whether the disciplinary requirements for such cases of offense, "made and provided," were carried out by either the accuser or the pastor of Logan D. Dameron.

4. Whether the confession and protest of the said Logan D. Dameron that, in the matter of the specifications, he "did not intend to defame or injure the accused, that if he had done so he was sorry for it, and that he was ready and willing to make any proper reparation," meet all the demands of the law and the facts of the case, and leave him, the said Dameron, guiltless of the specifications, and in the quiet and undoubted possession and occupancy of all the rights and privileges of membership in the M. E. Church, South.

L. M. LEE,

J. D. GIDDINGS.

P. Whitehead spoke against the adoption of the resolution, and J. O. A. Clark for it.

Bishop Pierce warned the Conference not to take any step which might contravene the constitution and law of the Church.

On motion of E. L. T. Blake, the resolution was laid on the table.

The following resolution was offered, read, and, on motion of W. W. Duncan, was laid on the table:

Resolved, That the Committee on Credentials be instructed to inquire whether L. D. Dameron is twenty-five years of age, and had been a member of the Church for at least six years at the time of holding the Conference.

H. J. ADAMS,

J. C. JOHNSON.

H. W. Foote moved a reconsideration of yesterday's vote of recommitment.

A motion of T. N. Mason, to lay that motion on the table, did not prevail.

The motion to reconsider was then adopted by a rising vote, 150 for, 85 against.

H. W. Foote moved to adopt the Minority Report as a substitute for Report No. 2 of the Committee on Credentials.

The previous question was called for by W. O. Gray—the call was sustained.

On motion of J. C. Simmons, the time was indefinitely extended.

A motion of Thos. Branch, to take the vote by yeas and nays, did not prevail.

The motion to adopt the substitute did not prevail, the vote being yeas 125, nays 127.

C. K. Marshall moved to adjourn—the motion did not prevail—the vote being 113 for, 137 against.

On motion of W. O. Gray, the vote was ordered to be taken by yeas and nays.

After the vote was taken, and before the result was announced, the following resolution was offered and read:

Resolved, That all members of the General Conference in the city absent by sickness, or by leave, be permitted to record their votes on this question.

A. R. WINFIELD,

R. LANE.

Paul Whitehead moved to amend by adding, "provided such votes may not change the result."

On motion of H. J. Adams, the motion and amendment were laid on the table.

The vote was announced as follows:

AYES—*Clerical*: Wilson A. W., Martin, Rodgers, Whisner, Peterson, Edwards, Sledd, Reed, Whitehead, Blackwell, Yates, Shipp, Duncan, Kennedy, Haygood, Potter, Boring, Evans, Adams, Cook, Allen Y. J., Harrison W. P., Hinton, Key J. S., Blake, Summers T. O., Blue, McCarty, Moore H. D., Rush J. W., Brown, Gurley, Carter, Parker, Andrews C. G., Ellis J. A., Barcroft, Barton, Wheat J. J., Cameron, Harris, Boswell, Thomas A. H., Mahon, Moore S. W., Burr, Young, Allison, Hargrove, Mooney, Miller C. W., Redford, Lee N. H., Messick, Settle, Hayes, Lewis, Finney, Vandeventer, Roberts, Dye, McLean, Lane, Easterling, Shaw,

Connor W. G., Gillett, Ahrens, Law M. J., Kavanaugh, Simmons, Compton. *Lay*: Magruder T. J., Wilson L. M., Bain, Branch, Mason, Pollard, Pace, Gallagher, McMillan J. P., Mitchell P. A., Paulett, Montgomery, Carlisle, Baer, Stokes, Johnson J. C., Meriwether, Beall, Langston, Hardeman, Lovett, Matthews, Taylor, Davis, Dent, Wailes, Hardaway, McMorris, Law F., Smith, Hefflin, Magruder W. H. N., Watts, Murry, Fant, Streater, Warterfield, Godwin J. R., Fielder, Godwin D. G., Patterson, Head, Morgan, Rodman, Gaunt, Johnson W. S., Harrison W. B., Beard, Jones G. M., Ewing, Hunt, Holt, Connally, Shugart, Richards, Shive, Woods, Parson, Berry—131.

NAYS—Clerical: Regester, Thomas D., Hough, Roszell, Bennett, Lee L. M., Medley, Wade, Black S., Richardson, Cunnyng-
ham, Stewart, Wiley, Price, Burnett, Brunner, Wilson N. H. D., Burkhead, Black W. S., Craven, North, Bobbitt, Walker H. A. C., Chrietzberg, Jones S. B., Darby, McGehee J. B., Clark, Moore T. W., Robinson, Oliver, Stevenson, Boland, Cobb J. E., Miller J. A., Johnson H. F., Watkins, Abbey, Murrah, McFerrin, Kelley D. C., West, Walker H. P., Hale, Fitch, Adkisson, Bryant, Rush W. M., Vincil, Spencer, Jones W. W., Tarwater, Downs, McEwen, Morton, Smith, Ewing Y., Walker J. H., Babcock, Steel, Hunter, Winfield, Watson, Neely M. H., Finley, Thompson, Alexander, Philpott, John, Veal, Stanford, McCarver, Thrall, Murchison, Hester B. R. *Lay*: Walton, Figgatt, Hamil, Wilson J. B., Newton, Carr M. M., Summers T. P., Kelly J. P., Kornegay, Lily, Robbins, Carr O. W., Miller W. J. T., McMillan W. C., Elkins, Connor F. A., Grogan, Crittenden, Dozier, Frazer, Johnson J. H., Groce, Palmer, Kumpe, Rayne, Marshall, Nugent, Babington, Mellen, Foote, Paine, Reynolds, Parkes J. L., Morrow, Lupton, Stitt, Wheat J. L., Stark, Hogan, Winsor, Ellis P. P., Gray, Rucker, Chick, Beckwith, Hester G. B., Harvey, Allen, Garland, Wheeler, Key, Swain H. C., Taylor J. F., Giddings, Winch, Henry, Davenport, McBryde—133.

Conference then adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop.

Friday Morning, May 10, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Pierce in the chair. Religious exercises were conducted by David Morton.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and confirmed.

Bishop Kavanaugh took the chair.

Leave of absence was granted to W. Miller, lay delegate from the Kentucky Conference; J. R. Henry, lay delegate from the North-west Texas Conference (for a time), and J. T. Richards was substituted for him on the Committees on Publishing Interests and Finance; also to A. R. Winfield, clerical delegate from Little Rock Conference, for Saturday; G. E. Kumpe, lay delegate from North Alabama Conference, on account of family affliction—F. P. Randle, reserve, takes his place on the Committee on Sunday-schools.

L. D. Palmer, lay delegate from Los Angeles Conference, arrived and took his seat.

S. A. Caldwell, lay delegate from the Tennessee Conference, appeared and took his seat, and W. H. Morgan, who had filled it as a reserve, took the place of T. D. Fite.

The Chair called for Reports of Standing Committees.

S. Register, chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. 3 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 3 ON EPISCOPACY.

The Committee on Episcopacy respectfully report: The "memorial of Carondelet Church, in St. Louis District," which was referred to us, was fully considered, and we find therein no charges or questions of law proper to be entertained by this committee.

S. REGISTER, Chairman.

S. S. BRYANT, Secretary.

J. S. Martin, chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 3 of that committee, which was read, and laid on the table under the rule. Also Report No. 4 of said committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 4 ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy have carefully considered various matters referred to them, with the following results, viz.:

1. In a memorial from the Nashville District Conference, asking "that the representative of a charge in the Board of District Stewards may have a right to appeal from an oppressive assessment to his charge, and in such case the Presiding Elder shall take a vote requiring three-fourths majority to enforce the assessment," the committee recommend non-concurrence.

2. In a memorial from the Nashville District Conference, and a resolution to the same effect, signed Wm. Doss and Wm. Witcher,

asking that the Discipline be so changed as to remove the election of stewards from the Quarterly Conference to the Church Conference, the committee recommend non-concurrence.

3. In a resolution signed by T. L. Mellen, C. K. Marshall, and others, and in one of similar import signed by S. Black and T. S. Wade, asking that District Stewards may be made members of District Conferences, the committee deem no action necessary, as each Annual Conference may determine what laymen shall be members of the District Conference, according to Ans. 2, Ques. 1, Sec. 3, Chap. II., page 50, Discipline.

4. A memorial from Trinity Church, Richmond, Va., and a petition of like effect from Centenary Church, St. Louis, both asking that the four years restriction be removed from the pastorate, and the Bishops be allowed to continue a pastor in the same charge as long as they may deem proper; and also a petition from the Iron Mountain District Conference, asking that no change in the pastorate be made, have each been considered. The committee unanimously recommend that no change be made in regard to the pastoral term.

5. In the item in the resolutions signed by S. Black and T. S. Wade, asking that the sixth Restrictive Rule, Chap. II., Sec. 1, page 37, providing that the produce of the Publishing House shall not be appropriated to other purposes than those specified, be stricken out of the Discipline, the committee recommend non-concurrence.

JOHN S. MARTIN, Chairman.

C. G. ANDREWS, Secretary.

O. P. Fitzgerald, chairman of the Committee on the Name of the Church, presented Reports Nos. 1 and 2 of said committee, which were read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 ON THE NAME OF THE CHURCH.

Your Committee on the Change of the Name of the Church, to whom was referred a memorial from the Holston Conference, and other papers relating to that subject, have carefully considered the matter, and submit the following report:

The time for such change, if it ever existed, is now past. The masses of our people are satisfied equally with the doctrine and polity of the Church and the name under which it has made a history of which it has no cause to be ashamed. Even on the border and the Pacific coast, where it was supposed the desire for a change of name was strongest, and the consequent benefits

would be greatest, our people are divided in opinion, with an increasing sentiment against any change.

The passions and prejudices which formerly led to misjudgment concerning the spirit and purposes of our Church are happily subsiding. Sectionalism has had its day in Church and State. Sectional catch-words have lost their power. Geographical lines cannot be abolished; they were made by the hand of God. Their political significance in the Church *can* be abolished, and, under the guidance of an unerring Providence, and the inspiration of the Spirit of grace, we may soon hope for this happy consummation.

Under our Church name as it stands, gratifying progress has been made toward the establishment of fraternal relations with the leading Methodist bodies of the world. If the geographical suffix to our name is a bar to fraternal recognition of us on the part of any, the fact furnishes a reason why *they* should pray for a better spirit rather than that *we* should write a new name on our banner in deference to wicked prejudice or willful ignorance.

Under our Church name as it stands, the most signal manifestations of the Divine favor have been accorded to us. At every step we have been guided and supported by the hand of God. The name we have borne during the vicissitudes, trials, and sorrows of the last thirty-four years has not repelled the presence of the almighty and ever gracious Head of the Church. The name we have borne under fiery baptisms of suffering has been consecrated by continual baptisms of the Holy Ghost. In no spirit of boasting, but with devout and fervent gratitude, we make the challenge, "If God be with us, who can be against us?"

Under our Church name as it stands, we present to the world a Christian Communion remarkable for its agreement in doctrine, the homogeneousness of its constituent elements, and the unity of its purposes and plans. Examples are not wanting in which the substance of essential unity has been sacrificed for the shadow of external uniformity. A new departure in Church nomenclature on our part might lead to that which would furnish another warning to such as are tempted to substitute a doubtful expediency for unchangeable principles.

Under our Church name as it stands, all the titles to our Church-property, involving many millions of dollars, are secure and settled. These titles should not be disturbed by any thing short of undoubted and urgent necessity. It has already been shown that no such necessity exists.

This question has already been submitted to, and acted on by, the Church. The General Conference of 1866 submitted the matter to the Annual Conferences. The proposition to change the name of the Church was then rejected. In the light of subsequent events, it now seems to us that this action ought to be, and will be, final.

Your committee therefore recommend the passage of the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the judgment of this General Conference, the question of the change of Church name was finally settled by the action of the Annual Conferences in the years 1866 and 1867, and we recommend that there be no farther agitation of this matter.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

O. P. FITZGERALD, Chairman.

REPORT NO. 2 ON THE NAME OF THE CHURCH.

Your Committee on the Change of the Name of the Church, to whom was referred the memorial of the Illinois Conference of the Episcopal Methodist Church, under the jurisdiction of the M. E. Church, South, asking permission to change the name of said Conference to that of "Illinois Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South," have had the same under consideration, and unanimously recommend that the request be granted, and that the action requisite for the accomplishment of this object be taken as soon as possible by the Illinois Conference.

O. P. FITZGERALD, Chairman.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 5 of that committee.

W. G. Veal, P. A. Peterson, and others, of said committee, presented a minority report.

Both reports were read, and laid on the table, under the rule.

The Chair then called for petitions, memorials, and appeals.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.—A petition from Gosport District Conference, praying for the organization of the Indiana Conference.

The Chair then called for resolutions to be referred to committees.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—L. M. Wilson and S. S. Roszell offered a resolution on the form of worship. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—J. H. Brunner and F. Richardson

offered a resolution in favor of a "Disabled Preachers' Society." Referred to the Committee on Finance.

The following resolutions were then offered, read, and referred, as ordered, to the Committee on Public Worship:

Whereas, our beloved brother, Rev. Young J. Allen, D.D., nineteen years a missionary in China, is now with us, and a member of this body; and whereas, he has been engaged in a special department of missionary work in that vast empire: therefore,

Resolved, That Brother Allen be, and is hereby, requested to address this Conference on the condition of our work in China, and his own department in particular.

Resolved, That the above action be referred to the Committee on Public Worship.

W. G. E. CUNNYNGHAM,

E. E. WILEY.

T. A. Mitchell and F. Richardson offered a resolution referring to the boundaries of the Holston Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—H. J. Adams and J. H. Grogan offered a resolution asking the expunction of "Ans. 3 to Ques. 1, Sec. 1, Chap. II. of the Discipline," referring to the voting of clerical and lay members in the General Conference. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. Also one favoring the expunction of the clause "except such as involves ministerial character," Chap. II., Sec. 2, Ans. 3 to Ques. 2, page 40 of the Discipline. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

J. Boring, W. F. Cook, and W. H. Potter, offered a resolution referring to the ordination of deacons and elders. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—H. F. Johnson and J. H. McLean offered a resolution in regard to Church trials. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—J. J. Wheat and A. B. Stark offered a resolution favoring the appointment of Boards of Education. Referred to the Committee on Education.

J. J. Wheat and J. D. Cameron offered a resolution on allowing Presiding Elders to exchange in holding District Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—A. P. Watterfield, T. L. Boswell, and W. T. Harris, on mortgages and liens on Church-property. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A. H. Thomas and T. L. Boswell offered a resolution on the support of the ministry. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—J. L. Parkes, N. T. Lupton, and others, offered a resolution on Sunday-school Boards. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—H. C. Settle and N. H. Lee offered a resolution on reception into full connection. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. L. Wheat and B. M. Messick offered a resolution respecting the registering of baptized children, and giving them certificates on removal. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—W. A. Tarwater and T. C. Downs offered a resolution on the payment of debts by traveling preachers. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—W. G. Connor and C. G. Andrews offered a resolution on reducing the labors of Bishops. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. M. Richards, T. H. Shugart, and O. F. Davenport, offered a resolution on changing the Discipline, pages 75 and 76, on the duties of preachers.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—C. K. Marshall and W. M. Rush offered a resolution on inserting a foot-note in the ordination service. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

On motion of W. O. Gray, T. S. Moorman, who was not present yesterday when the vote was taken on the adoption of the Majority Report No. 2 of the Committee on Credentials, was allowed to record his vote, which he did in the affirmative.

J. W. Gaut, T. M. Cobb, and T. M. Jones, asked the privilege of recording their votes.

W. O. Gray moved that they be allowed to do so. An amendment was offered to the effect that their votes should not affect the settlement of the question.

The previous question was called—the call was sustained, the question was put, and carried.

The decision of the Chair on the question of law was called for, and given as follows:

That their votes cannot change the result of the vote on yesterday.

H. J. Adams appealed from the decision of the Chair.

The Chair was sustained.

T. M. Jones, J. W. Gaut, T. M. Cobb, then recorded their votes in the negative.

The report of the Commissioners on Fraternity, appointed by the last General Conference, together with the official records of the separate sessions of the Commissioners, and the report of the proceedings of the Joint Commission, was presented by T. M. Finney, and the report was read.

After some discussion as to the proper action to be taken, Bishop Paine stated that the action of the Commission was a finality—the Conference has nothing to do but to spread the report on the Journal.

The following resolution was offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the report of our Commissioners on Formal Fraternity be spread on the Journal, and the documents presented therewith be deposited in the archives of the General Conference; and that the thanks of the Conference are due, and are hereby expressed, to the Commissioners, for the eminently satisfactory manner in which they discharged their onerous and delicate task.

R. N. PRICE,

H. F. JOHNSON.

The report is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS ON FRATERNITY.

To the Bishops and Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

DEAR BRETHREN:—The Commissioners of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, authorized by a resolution of the General Conference, adopted May 24, 1874, and appointed in pursuance thereof by the College of Bishops at their annual meeting in May, 1857, “to meet a similar commission authorized by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church,” “in order to remove all obstacles to formal fraternity between the two Churches,” “and to adjust all existing difficulties,” have the honor to communicate to you official information of the result of their negotiations.

We herewith deliver to your body, as our report, the journal of our proceedings in separate session, and also the official records of the Joint Commission, which held its session in Congress Hall, Cape May City, New Jersey, August 17 to 23, 1876, which contain the terms and details of our action.

The Joint Commission adopted an address to the two Churches, whose commissions it executed, communicating to them the results of its sessions, as having realized harmony of views on vital

points, and complete unanimity touching the essential principles of fraternization. For the purposes of this report we extract from the proceedings of the Joint Commission its conclusions in reference to the principal matters which claimed its united consideration, adopting terms of statement contained in its official address:

At the beginning of our consultations one great question seemed to overshadow all others. It concerns the relation of the two Churches to each other and to Episcopal Methodism.

We adopted, without a dissentient voice, the following declaration and basis of fraternity:

Status of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and their coördinate relations as legitimate Branches of Episcopal Methodism:

Each of said Churches is a legitimate Branch of Episcopal Methodism in the United States, having a common origin in the Methodist Episcopal Church organized in 1784; and since the organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was consummated in 1846, by the voluntary exercise of the right of the Southern Annual Conferences, ministers and members, to adhere to that Communion, it has been an evangelical Church, reared on scriptural foundations, and her ministers and members, with those of the Methodist Episcopal Church, have constituted one Methodist family, though in distinct ecclesiastical Connections.

It was next incumbent on us to consider the questions concerning conflicting claims to Church-property, and some special cases that could not conveniently be referred to the operation of a general rule.

There were two principal questions to be considered with regard to the Church-property in dispute between local societies of the two Churches:

First—As to the legal ownership of said property.

Second—As to whether it will consist with strict equity, or promote Christian harmony or the cause of religion, to dispossess those societies now using Church-property which was originally intended for their use and occupancy, and of which they have acquired possession, though they may have lost legal title to it by their transfer from the one Church to the other.

We have considered the papers in all cases that have been brought to our notice. These arose in the following States: Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Tennessee, Louisiana, North

Carolina and South Carolina. In respect of some of these cases we have given particular directions; but for all other cases the Joint Commission unanimously adopted the following rules for the adjustment of adverse claims to Church-property:

RULE I. In cases not adjudicated by the Joint Commission, any society of either Church, constituted according to its Discipline, now occupying the Church-property, shall remain in possession thereof; provided that where there is now, in the same place, a society of more members attached to the other Church, and which has hitherto claimed the use of the property, the latter shall be entitled to possession.

RULE II. Forasmuch as we have no power to annul decisions respecting Church-property made by the State courts, the Joint Commission ordain in respect thereof:

(1) In cases in which such a decision has been made, or in which there exists an agreement, the same shall be carried out in good faith.

(2) In communities where there are two societies, one belonging to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the other to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which have adversely claimed the Church-property, it is recommended that, without delay, they amicably compose their differences, irrespective of the strict legal title, and settle the same according to Christian principles, the equities of the particular case, and, so far as practicable, according to the principle of the foregoing Rule.

But if such settlement cannot be speedily made, then the question shall be referred for equitable decision to three arbitrators, one to be chosen by each claimant from their respective societies, and the two thus chosen shall select a third person not connected with either of said Churches; and the decision of any two of them shall be final.

(3) In communities in which there is but one society, Rule I. shall be faithfully observed in the interests of peace and fraternity.

RULE III. Whenever necessary to carry the foregoing Rules into effect, the legal title to the Church-property shall be accordingly transferred.

RULE IV. These Rules shall take effect immediately.

We also deliver to your body a copy of "Formal Fraternity," published by the order and under the supervision of the Joint Commission, and containing the proceedings concerning

Formal Fraternity conducted between the two Churches since May, 1869.

The presentation of this report is an impressive and solemn reminder of the absence of the honored and lamented chairman of your Commission, the Rev. Edward H. Myers, D.D., whom we had fondly expected to be our representative in the present transaction. His colleagues desire to bear testimony to the wisdom that selected and designated him for this important position—the delicate and difficult responsibilities of which he discharged with fidelity and distinguished ability, and in the spirit of our holy religion. Scarcely had he fulfilled this trust, when, hastening to his pastoral charge for service and sacrifice, then a post of danger as well as duty, he was summoned by the Head of the Church to higher honors and to his everlasting recompense. The deep shadow thus cast upon the present hour, to which he looked with eager anticipation, is intensified by the luster both of character and achievement which crowned the end of his days.

The favorable reception of the work of the Commission was to our late chairman a source of great satisfaction, and we cannot withhold the expression of our own, that its action has received the approval of the Church, indicated by the voice of Church periodicals and the Annual Conferences, and recently in the gratifying terms of the address of our chief pastors to this body. And we should be untrue to our profound convictions did we fail distinctly and formally to recognize the divine blessing, which, to a favorable conclusion, helped our conscious insufficiency.

And now, praying the God of peace to give to these two reconciled branches of Episcopal Methodism, as an abiding blessing, “the wisdom that is from above,” which “is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy,” and the fullest realization that “the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace,” we complete the duties of the high trust committed to us.

ROBERT K. HARGROVE,

THOMAS M. FINNEY,

DAVID CLOPTON,

ROBERT B. VANCE,

Commissioners.

Conference then adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop.

Saturday Morning, May 11, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Kavanaugh in the chair.

Divine service was performed by J. B. West.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and confirmed.

Bishop Wightman took the chair.

S. M. McGehee, lay delegate from the Little Rock Conference, appeared and took his seat. G. J. Patterson, lay delegate from South Carolina, appeared and took his seat, which had been filled by J. A. Elkins, reserve.

Leave of absence was granted to J. W. Newton, lay delegate from the Baltimore Conference, on account of family affliction; also for the day to R. Babington, lay delegate from the Mississippi Conference; and to W. L. Nugent, lay delegate from the Mississippi Conference, for a few days, on account of important business.

J. O. A. Clark rose to a question of privilege. He had said in his place that Dr. Leftwich, when Presiding Elder, had left out St. James Church, St. Louis, Mo., from the Conference appointments. This he gathered, as he stated at the time, from the published record on which he was commenting. Dr. Leftwich informs him that he was mistaken—that the Church was not a Conference appointment. J. O. A. Clark made this explanation, as he said he would not for the world do injustice to any one.

The Chair called for Reports of Standing Committees.

S. Register, chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. 4 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 4 ON EPISCOPACY.

The Committee on Episcopacy would respectfully report that a resolution was referred to them signed by A. A. Robinson and J. J. Davis, asking that the Bishops prepare, or cause to be prepared, a short and clear statement of our peculiar doctrines, to be inserted as an appendix to the Discipline. The committee recommend non-concurrence.

S. REGISTER, Chairman.

S. S. BRYANT, Secretary.

J. S. Martin, chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 5 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 5 ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy beg leave to submit their Report No. 5, as follows, viz.:

1. They have considered a paper signed by G. Stewart, F. Richardson, and T. P. Summers, asking: (1) That the Discipline be so amended as to strike out of Ans. 6, Ques. 1, Sec. 3, Chap. II., page 51, the words, "provided no member of the Annual Conference shall vote in said election." (2) To strike out of Ans. 3, Ques. 1, Sec. 2, Chap. II., page 41, the words, "except such as involves ministerial character." In both of these changes asked for the committee recommend non-concurrence.

2. The committee have considered the request of N. H. Lee, A. H. Redford, and B. M. Messick, to have questions of law decided as to the meaning of the words "lost sight of by removal or otherwise," under the directions given to Church Conferences, and also whether attendance upon class-meeting is still a test of Church-membership. The committee respectfully report that decisions of law do not come within their province.

JOHN S. MARTIN, Chairman.

C. G. ANDREWS, Secretary.

W. S. Black, chairman of the Committee on Boundaries, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read, and lies on the table under the rule.

D. C. Kelley, chairman of the Committee on Missions, presented Reports Nos. 3 and 4 of that committee, which were read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 3 ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions have instructed me to report, in connection with the bequest of James T. Colvin, as follows:

By the last will and testament of said Colvin, a bequest of ten thousand dollars was made or given to the Agent of our Publishing House, for the use and benefit of the Missionary Society of our Church, to be controlled by said Agent for this specific charitable use, and applied thereto, under the direction of the General Conference, and as they shall judge best calculated to promote the object indicated. Of the said sum eighty-five hundred dollars has been paid by the executor of said will. Two thousand dollars is now in safe deposit, awaiting the action of this Conference. Sixty-five hundred dollars has, in advance of any direction as required by said will, been applied to the missionary work

intrusted by the Discipline to the said Missionary Society, whether in ignorance of the provisions of said will or not your committee have not deemed it necessary to inquire. As the said sum has been devoted in good faith to the charitable use intended by the testator, your committee recommend that the said application be approved, and that the residue of said bequest, with that on hand, be paid over to the Treasurer of the Board of Missions, and expended on account of the mission-work in China. To that end the accompanying resolution is submitted for adoption.

Resolved, By the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, assembled at Atlanta, that the application of sixty-five hundred dollars, part of the bequest to the Agent of the Publishing House, by James T. Colvin, of Iowa, made by the Board of Missions to the missionary work under its charge, in advance of direction by this Conference, be, and the same is hereby, approved, ratified, and confirmed; and that all the rest and residue of said bequest, amounting to thirty-five hundred dollars, be paid to the Treasurer of the Board of Missions, and applied by said Board to the missionary work in China.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

W. S. JOHNSON, Secretary.

REPORT NO. 4 ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions have carefully considered the resolution in relation to the employment by the Annual Conferences of missionaries at large, and respectfully recommend non-concurrence.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

W. S. JOHNSON, Secretary.

W. P. Harrison, chairman of the Committee on Education, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read, and, on motion of J. B. McGehee, was laid on the table for the present. Also Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read, and lies on the table under the rule.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 9 of that Committee, which was read.

J. M. Richards and J. E. Groce, of that committee, presented a minority report for Report No. 9.

On motion of W. O. Gray, the minority report was laid on the table, to consider the report of the majority.

W. O. Gray moved to adopt the report of the majority.

After discussion, J. C. C. Winch called for the previous question

—the call was sustained, and the report of the majority was then adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 9 ON FINANCE.

Your Finance Committee, to whom was referred a resolution by C. I. Vandeventer, P. P. Ellis, and J. F. Rucker, requesting the Committee on Finance to take into consideration the importance of recommending "that the salaries of all officers appointed by the General Conference shall be estimated by those charged with the performance of that duty, not only in the spirit of Christian liberality, but as far as practicable with justice to all concerned, and with economy suited to the financial condition of the times," have carefully considered the same, and inasmuch as this committee is not charged with the fixing of any salaries, or with the supervision or examination of any work already performed, or to be performed, by any person receiving a salary, and have no means for such examination, and that other committees of this Conference are especially charged and required to examine in this behalf by the law of the Church, and the reference to them of questions involving the amount of such compensation to be paid, and of fixing the amount of such compensation, have instructed a report that they do not deem it proper that they should make any recommendation on the subject, and respectfully ask to be relieved of any farther consideration of the subject.

R. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

MINORITY REPORT NO. 9 ON FINANCE.

Resolved, That the salaries now received by our Bishops and officers appointed by the General Conference should be reduced in proportion to the economy demanded by the stringency of the present financial condition of our country.

J. M. RICHARDS,

J. E. GROCE.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 10 of that committee, which was read.

J. C. C. Winch moved its adoption.

After considerable discussion, J. B. McGehee called for the previous question—the call was sustained.

The vote was taken, and the motion to adopt Report No. 10 did not prevail.

REPORT NO. 10 ON FINANCE.

Your Finance Committee, to whom was referred a resolution signed by J. H. Brunner, Frank Richardson, and others, requesting this committee to consider the propriety of authorizing and requesting each Annual Conference to organize a "Disabled Preachers' Relief Society," for the relief of disabled preachers and their families in necessitous cases, in advance of the relief afforded by the Conference collection, have considered the same, and have instructed me to report that they recommend that the members composing each Annual Conference, and such other persons whom they may associate with them, at the first meeting hereafter of the Conference, be authorized and requested to organize a "Disabled Preachers' Relief Society," upon such basis as they may deem proper, always provided the funds so raised shall not form any part of the Conference collection, nor be connected with or supplement the same, nor shall public collections be taken up in the churches in aid thereof. R. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 11 of that committee.

A. H. Thomas offered a substitute for Report No. 11 of the Committee on Finance, which was read, and, on motion of W. L. Nugent, the substitute was laid on the table.

W. O. Gray moved the previous question—the call was sustained, and Report No. 11 was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 11 ON FINANCE.

Your Finance Committee, to whom was referred a resolution signed by A. H. Thomas, T. L. Boswell, and others, upon a "plan for the support of the ministry," as a substitute for Chapter IX., Sections 1 to 2 inclusive, pages 155, 156, of the Discipline, have had the same under careful consideration, and have instructed me to report that they recommend non-concurrence therewith.

R. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

P. P. Ellis, from the Committee on Temperance, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee have had under consideration a paper signed by John Y. Murry, P. P. Ellis, and M. H. Neely, asking that the Committee on Public Worship arrange for a public temperance

meeting. Your committee would report that, in consultation with the Committee on Public Worship, the request in said paper will be complied with, and ample notice of time and place be given.

P. P. ELLIS, Chairman.

The Chair then called for petitions, memorials, and appeals.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—S. Black presented a petition signed by C. H. Burus, J. K. Hedges, and others, praying that certain appointments be transferred from the Baltimore to the Western Virginia Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A memorial from that Conference, signed E. J. Meynardie, Secretary, on lay evangelists. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—T. L. Boswell presented a memorial from that Conference to make it the duty of Presiding Elders to prepare from the Minutes of Quarterly Conferences a complete list of delegates and members, and present it at the opening of the District Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—A. Hunter presented a memorial from J. B. Bond and others, Little Rock, Ark., praying that the law relating to the trial (preliminary) of traveling preachers on charges of immoral conduct prescribe a committee composed of preachers and lay members in equal number. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—J. H. McLain moved to take up Report No. 2 on Boundaries and recommit.

R. Alexander moved to lay the motion on the table. This motion did not prevail.

The motion to take up and recommit prevailed.

J. H. McLain then presented a memorial from Terrell, Garden Valley, and other circuits, through Asa Holt, deprecating the change of the south boundary of North Texas Conference, and moved its reference to the Committee on Boundaries.

R. S. Finley moved to lay the motion on the table. This motion did not prevail.

The memorial was then referred to the Committee on Boundaries. The Chair then called for resolutions.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—Resolutions offered by J. F. Medley, T. S. Wade, and S. Black, on the transfer of preachers. Referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

S. Black and J. F. Medley offered a resolution on the right of An-

nual, District, and Church Conferences, to decide questions of membership according to law. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

S. Black and J. F. Medley offered a resolution on removing of traveling preachers from one charge to another. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

S. Black and J. F. Medley offered a resolution on defining what is meant by the Constitution of the Church. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—Lovick Pierce stated that he had some papers to offer to the Conference, but would postpone their presentation to next week. He made some judicious and characteristic remarks, which were listened to with profound attention by the Conference.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—Thos. O. Summers and A. G. Haygood offered a resolution in regard to the stereotyping of Minutes of Annual Conferences, and the Journal of the General Conference for 1866. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

W. A. McCarty and R. A. Hardaway offered a resolution on reporting collections for the Bible cause. Referred to the Committee on Bible Cause.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—J. A. Ellis and W. H. Watkins offered a resolution respecting the Indians within the bounds of the Mississippi Conference. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—J. Barcroft and H. W. Foote offered a resolution on enlarging the powers of District Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. Y. Murry, J. B. Streater, and T. S. Wade, offered a resolution on temperance. Referred to the Committee on Temperance.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—R. K. Hargrove and O. R. Blue offered a resolution for perfecting Church registers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—W. S. Johnson and G. H. Hayes offered a resolution in regard to members removing without certificates. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. S. Johnson and G. W. Beard offered a resolution on salaries of Book Agent and Editors. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests. Also one on the salaries of officers of the Board of Missions. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—S. S. Bryant and L. S. Burkhead offered a resolution respecting changes of Discipline on pages 50 and 75. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

S. S. Bryant and H. Clay Ewing offered a resolution on the election of Bishops. Referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—J. J. Robertson and H. C. Allen offered a resolution looking to a change of verbiage in describing the south boundary line of that Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—I. G. John, A. H. Redford, and others, offered a resolution respecting the price of Church papers. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

J. D. Giddings, R. Alexander, and I. G. John, offered resolutions in regard to the creation of debts on Church-property. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

J. D. Giddings, J. C. C. Winch, and I. G. John, offered a resolution on providing a standing judiciary committee. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That on and after Monday next, the first business of the Conference, after the reading and correction of the Journal, shall be the Reports of Standing Committees which have been laid on the table under the rule, in the order in which they have been presented.

W. L. NUGENT,
C. G. ANDREWS,
S. B. WATTS.

On motion of W. L. Nugent, the reports were ordered to be now taken up, and Report No. 2 on Revisal was taken up by items.

W. G. Veal moved to adopt item 1.

W. H. N. Magruder moved to amend by inserting "children or adults" in place of "persons."

W. Mooney moved to lay this amendment on the table. This motion prevailed.

W. H. Potter moved to strike out the word "persons" and insert "children or adults, or both."

On motion of J. W. Rodman, this motion was laid on the table.

J. M. Richards moved the previous question—the call was sustained—and item 1 was then adopted.

Item 2 was then taken up, and, after considerable discussion, was laid on the table for the present.

Item 3 was then taken up. H. F. Johnson moved its adoption.

O. R. Blue moved to amend by striking out the prefix "non."

J. L. Gaunt moved the previous question—the call was sustained, and the motion to amend did not prevail.

Item 3 was then adopted.

Item 4 was taken up, and, on motion of W. W. Garland, was adopted.

On motion of S. X. Hall, Conference adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop.

Monday Morning, May 13, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Wightman in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by E. E. Wiley.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and confirmed.

Bishop Doggett took the chair.

W. H. Foster, reserve lay delegate from the Louisiana Conference, in place of J. L. Scales, and J. H. Richey, lay delegate from North-west Texas Conference, appeared and took their seats. W. H. Foster was placed on the Committee on Publishing Interests.

Leave of absence was granted to G. B. Hester, lay delegate (for a few days); C. R. Head, lay (on account of urgent business); T. W. Mason, lay (for the same reason).

The Chair called for Reports of Standing and Special Committees—there were none.

A memorial from Arkansas Conference, on the boundaries between that Conference and the White River Conference, was presented by C. F. Harvey, which was read, and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Resolutions on representation, which had been offered by W. S. Johnson, W. H. Watkins, and W. G. Veal, which had been referred to the Committee on Revisal, were transferred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

C. Murchison and B. R. Hester offered a resolution on a change of the law referring to trustees. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. Mooney, W. Burr, and others, offered a resolution regarding the Baptismal Service; and another on the order of public worship. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. M. Boland and H. Brown offered a resolution on a change in sundry items in the Discipline for perspicuity and arrangement. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

E. E. Wiley and S. Regester offered a resolution on publishing the General Minutes. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

J. H. Dye, A. R. Winfield, and J. A. Ellis, offered a resolution on appointing investigating committees. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

T. S. Wade and S. Black offered a resolution in reference to receiving preachers from other Churches. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. S. Johnson and H. P. Walker offered a resolution on the duty of the Secretary of Joint Board of Finance. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. S. Johnson and A. R. Winfield offered a resolution on a form for financial exhibit of the Conference-year. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

N. T. Lupton and S. A. Caldwell offered a resolution on lay representation. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

Thomas O. Summers and A. G. Haygood offered a resolution favoring the restoration of the word "of" in the title of Article V. in the Twenty-five Articles. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

N. T. Lupton and B. Craven offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That after Saturday, May 18, the General Conference hold afternoon sessions, from 3 to 6 o'clock.

J. B. McGehee moved to lay it on the table.

This motion did not prevail, and the resolution was adopted.

The order of the day was called—Report No. 2 on Revisal, which was presented May 7, and adopted, except the second item. This item was read and adopted.

The report as adopted is as follows:

REPORT NO. 2 ON REVISAL.

Your Committee on Revisal beg leave to make the following report:

1. That they have had under consideration a memorial from the South Carolina Conference on the subject, and they concur in recommending that paragraph 1, Chap. V., Sec. 5, page 122, of the Discipline, be so changed as to read, "Let Sunday-schools be formed in all our congregations where ten persons can be collected for that purpose."

2. A resolution by A. Hunter, A. R. Winfield, and E. N. Watson, looking to participation of lay members in all the business of Conference, with reference to which they respectfully recommend that this Conference do not concur.

3. Also a resolution signed by J. W. Rush, S. H. Dent, and others, suggesting that ministerial "relations," as well as "character," be excluded from the Conference business in which lay members may participate, and they respectfully recommend non-concurrence.

4. Also a resolution signed by Charles F. Harvey and J. J. Roberts, so changing Ques. 8, Sec. 14, Chap. II., page 58, of the Discipline, that it shall read, "other Church interests," instead of "other objects," and they respectfully recommend non-concurrence.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on Boundaries was called up and read.

N. H. Lee moved to adopt item 1, favoring the formation of the "Montana Conference."

D. Morton spoke in favor of the item, and the time was extended to allow him to finish his speech.

A. R. Winfield spoke against the item; and, by consent, D. Morton was allowed to reply.

W. M. Rush spoke in favor of the item.

R. H. Mahon moved the previous question—the call was sustained.

The question was taken on item 1, and it was adopted.

Item 2 was read and adopted.

Item 3 was read and adopted.

The report, as a whole, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 ON BOUNDARIES.

Your committee have considered sundry resolutions, petitions, and memorials, and offer the following as the result of their deliberations:

1. That the Territory of Montana be, and the same is hereby, created a separate Conference, by the name and style of "The Montana Annual Conference."

2. That the part of the town of Texarkana which lies in Arkansas be transferred to the North Texas Conference.

3. That Big Stony Creek appointment, Sinking Creek Circuit, Baltimore Conference, be transferred to the Holston Conference, so that the Baltimore Conference line will run as follows: And thence on a direct line to New River, at Pepper's Ferry, and by

that river westward to the line of Greenbrier county, West Virginia, with the exception of Big Stony Creek appointment.

W. S. BLACK, Chairman.

S. X. HALL, Secretary.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Boundaries was taken up and read, as follows:

REPORT NO. 2 ON BOUNDARIES.

1. The committee have had before them the resolution signed by H. P. Walker, S. X. Hall, J. W. Fitch, and J. S. Gaunt, from the Kentucky Conference; also a resolution signed by N. H. Lee, A. H. Redford, and G. H. Hayes, of the Louisville Conference, concerning the boundary line between those Conferences. The committee recommend that no change be made.

2. That the memorial from the Texas Conference, asking to have transferred Leon, Robinson, Milam, and Williamson counties, in the North-west Texas Conference, to the Texas Conference, be not granted.

3. That the prayer of the memorialists of the East Texas Conference be granted, so that the north boundary line of the East Texas Conference shall commence at the Louisiana State line in Caddo Lake; thence up said lake to the mouth of Little Cypress River; thence up said river to the line of Upshur county; thence with the south boundary line of said county to the Texas and Pacific Railroad; thence west with the line of said railroad to the east fork of the Trinity River; thence down said river to its confluence with the main Trinity River: *provided*, that all towns and villages which are now on said railroad, or shall hereafter be built, shall belong to the East Texas Conference.

W. S. BLACK, Chairman.

S. X. HALL, Secretary.

Item 1 was read and adopted.

Item 2 was read.

R. Alexander moved to amend by striking out the word "not." He advocated the amendment, and T. Stanford opposed it.

On motion of A. S. Andrews, the time was extended to allow him to finish his speech.

At the close, T. M. Meriwether moved the previous question—the call was not sustained.

W. G. Veal spoke in opposition to the amendment; J. D. Giddings spoke in favor of it; W. G. Connor against it.

The amendment did not prevail.

Item 2 was then adopted.

The remainder of the report having been recommitted, Saturday, May 11, still lies on the table.

Report No. 3 of the Committee on Revisal, with the Minority Report, was taken up.

Item 1 of the Report of the Majority was read, and a motion was made to adopt it.

Pending the discussion of the question, a motion to extend the time did not prevail.

H. Brown, clerical delegate, North Alabama Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the session—A. West, reserve delegate, takes his place, and also on the Committee on Episcopacy.

Conference adjourned with the doxology, and the benediction by the Bishop.

Tuesday Morning, May 14, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Doggett in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by C. W. Miller.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and confirmed.

Leave of absence was granted to S. B. Jones, clerical delegate from South Carolina, and W. C. Powers takes his place on the Committee on Publishing Interests; W. E. Wailes, lay delegate from Alabama Conference, and J. H. Harris takes his place on the Committee on Finance; and E. Y. McMorris, lay delegate from the Alabama Conference.

R. Lane, clerical delegate from North Texas Conference, takes the place of W. J. Swain on the Committee on Education.

N. H. D. Wilson asked and obtained leave to withdraw the memorial of the North Carolina Conference on boundaries, which was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Bishop McTyeire took the chair, and called for Reports of Standing Committees.

S. Regester, chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. 5 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 5 ON EPISCOPACY.

The Committee on Episcopacy respectfully report the following resolution, signed by J. F. Medley, T. S. Wade, and S. Black, which was referred to them, was duly considered, viz.:

“Resolved, That the Discipline be so changed that a preacher can-

not be transferred from one Conference to another without the consent of the Conference to which he is transferred."

The committee recommend non-concurrence.

S. REGESTER, Chairman.

S. S. BRYANT, Secretary.

D. C. Kelley, chairman of the Committee on Missions, presented Report No. 5 of that committee, which was read, and laid on the table under the rule.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Reports Nos. 6 and 7, which were read, and laid on the table under the rule.

C. K. Marshall, chairman of the Committee on Sunday-schools, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read, and laid on the table under the rule. Also Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read, and acted upon by items.

Item 1 was taken up and read.

H. P. Walker and R. Abbey spoke against it.

Pending the action on this question, E. E. Wiley and A. R. Winfield offered the following resolution—a motion of R. S. Finley to lay it on the table did not prevail, and, after considerable discussion, it was withdrawn:

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Worship, for the accommodation of the General Conference, be, and they are hereby, kindly requested to furnish this body, if possible, a more commodious and better ventilated room in which to receive and hear our Fraternal Messengers; and also in which to transact the general business of Conference up to the close of the session.

The discussion of item 1 of Report No. 2 of the Committee on Sunday-schools, was resumed.

J. B. McGehee moved to amend by inserting "in view of the ample provision of the Discipline on the subject."

H. J. Adams moved as a substitute for the amendment the resolution of H. P. Walker and J. W. Fitch.

On motion of N. H. D. Wilson, the substitute was laid on the table.

J. J. Davis called for the previous question—the call was sustained—the question was put, and the amendment was adopted.

Report No. 2 on Sunday-schools, as adopted, is as follows:

REPORT NO. 2 ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

Your committee, after the most patient and careful investigation of numerous resolutions and proposed amendments sent to

them, beg leave, in view of the existing ample provisions of the Discipline in relation to these matters, to report their non-concurrence in the following:

1. On enrolling baptized children as members of the Church, etc., signed by R. Abbey and W. H. Watkins.

2. Also one on catechisms for, and enrollment of, baptized children, signed by H. P. Walker and J. W. Fitch.

3. On enlarging the *Sunday School Magazine*, signed by T. J. Magruder and P. P. Ellis.

4. On power in the pastor to remove a Sunday-school superintendent, signed A. T. Winsor, P. P. Ellis.

5. On more urgent inquiries as to the diligence of pastors in Sunday-school work, signed J. C. C. Winch, J. D. Giddings.

6. On encouraging Sunday-schools to support missionaries, signed P. P. Ellis, T. M. Cobb.

Respectfully submitted.

C. K. MARSHALL, Chairman.

P. GALLAGHER, Secretary.

Bishop Pierce, on behalf of the Committee on Appeals, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 ON APPEALS.

David Nolan, elder of the North Georgia Conference, expelled. Decision of the North Georgia Conference not reversed.

G. F. PIERCE, President.

A. G. HAYGOOD, Secretary.

Atlanta, Ga., May 14, 1878.

N. H. D. Wilson asked and obtained leave of absence for J. W. North, clerical delegate from the North Carolina Conference, and stated that H. Lily would take his place on the Committee on Missions.

A. M. Shipp gave notice that J. R. Mood, reserve lay delegate from the South Carolina Conference, substitutes H. Baer, lay, in the Conference and Committee on Finance.

A. S. Andrews, O. P. Fitzgerald, and others, offered a resolution embracing a plan for so changing the Discipline as to allow the clerical and lay members to participate in all elections of the District and Annual Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

J. M. Steel and John H. Dye offered a resolution embracing a method of relief for the Publishing House. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

J. D. Cameron, H. W. Foote, and W. P. Barton, offered a resolution favorable to combining the forms for the baptism of adults and the reception and recognition of Church-members. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

G. J. Patterson and H. A. C. Walker offered a resolution on hearsay testimony in Church trials. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. P. McMillen, P. A. Mitchell, and others, offered a resolution with reference to a change in the ratio of representation in the General Conference. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

A. T. Winsor and J. F. Rucker offered a resolution on trial of ministers. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

D. G. Godwin, G. M. Jones, and J. R. Godwin, offered a resolution on changing the ratio of representation in the General Conference. Referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

The order of the day was then called up, being Report No. 3 on Revisal.

Item 1 was under discussion.

R. H. Mahon, who was entitled to the floor, spoke against its adoption.

After considerable discussion, S. Rodgers moved the previous question—the call was sustained—the question was put, and item 1 was adopted.

Item 2 was read and adopted.

The report, as adopted, is as follows:

REPORT NO. 3 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to present, as Report No. 3:

1. That they have considered a memorial signed by C. W. Miller, asking that it be made the duty of the Quarterly Conference, at the first session after each Annual Conference session, to make out an accurate list of the local preachers within its bounds, and, with the aid of the Presiding Elder, to assign to each of them a definite field of ministerial labor for the year; and respectfully recommend *non-concurrence*.

2. They have also had under careful consideration a resolution signed by P. A. Peterson and A. R. Winfield, asking that it may be provided in the Discipline that no member elect to the General Conference shall be admitted to a seat in that body, if at the

time of its session he is a member of an Annual Conference other than that which elected him; and respectfully recommend that this Conference do *not* concur.

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

MINORITY REPORT NO. 3 ON REVISAL.

The undersigned, a minority of the Committee on Revisal, being unable to agree with the majority in regard to a resolution referred to said committee, declaring that no person shall be admitted into the General Conference as representative of an Annual Conference of which at the time of the meeting of the General Conference he is not a member, respectfully submit for adoption the following change of Discipline:

On page 33, Chapter II., Section 1, after the word "Conference" in the last line of the first paragraph, add, "but no one shall be admitted to a seat in the General Conference who at the time of holding said Conference shall be a member of an Annual Conference other than the one by which he was elected."

P. A. PETERSON,

J. Y. MURRY,

M. H. NEELY,

H. V. PHILPOTT,

J. W. COMPTON.

Atlanta, Ga., May 8, 1878.

Report No. 4 of the Committee on Revisal was taken up.

Item 1 was read and adopted.

Item 2 was read and adopted.

Item 3 was read.

H. P. Walker moved to amend by striking out the words "District Conference," and inserting the words "Annual Conference."

On motion of A. R. Winfield, the motion to amend was laid on the table.

After discussion, P. A. Peterson moved the previous question—the call was sustained—the question was put, and item 3 was not adopted—113 for, 121 against.

Item 4 was read.

After discussion, Thos. Branch moved the previous question—the call was sustained—the question was put, and the item was not adopted—112 for, 120 against.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the session was extended to allow E.

E. Wiley, chairman of the Committee on Introductions, to present a report, as follows:

REPORT ON INTRODUCTIONS.

Resolved, That Thursday next, 10 o'clock A.M., be fixed as the time for receiving and hearing the Fraternal Messengers from the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the main audience-room of this church.

C. K. MARSHALL,

J. E. EVANS,

J. E. EDWARDS,

T. L. MELLEN,

E. E. WILEY,

Of the Committee on Introductions.

W. W. Duncan moved to strike out the last clause.

The motion prevailed.

The report, as amended, was adopted.

Leave of absence was granted to J. Y. Murry, lay delegate from North Mississippi Conference, and R. Paine, jr., was put in his place on the Committee on Revisal; also to W. H. Morgan, lay delegate from Tennessee Conference, on account of illness.

Conference adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop.

Wednesday Morning, May 15, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by W. Murrah.

The Minutes were read and confirmed.

Bishop Keener took the chair.

R. Abbey rose to a question of privilege, and moved to reconsider the vote by which the Conference resolved to receive the Fraternal Delegates in the Conference-room, and not in the *auditorium* of the church.

A motion to lay on the table did not prevail.

The motion to reconsider did not prevail.

Leave of absence was granted to J. H. Carlisle, lay delegate from South Carolina Conference—his place is to be filled by W. K. Blake, reserve, on the Committee on Sunday-schools.

S. B. Jones, clerical delegate from the South Carolina Conference, resumed his seat, which was filled yesterday by W. C. Powers.

A paper referring to railroad fare was read by the Secretary,

and, on his motion, a committee of three was ordered to which that and similar papers may be referred.

The committee is as follows: D. G. Godwin, N. H. D. Wilson, J. M. Reed.

J. S. Martin, chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 6 of that committee, which was read.

J. E. Edwards and J. D. Vincil offered a substitute.

J. O. A. Clark moved that the report and substitute lie on the table, and be the order of the day for Friday, May 17, at 10 o'clock.

A motion to indefinitely postpone this motion did not prevail.

A motion to strike out the order of the day specified prevailed, and the motion as amended was adopted, and the report and substitute lie on the table.

J. B. McFerrin, chairman of the Committee on Publishing Interests, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

The Committee on Publishing Interests, to whom was referred a resolution of S. W. Moore and W. W. Bennett, on the expediency of revising our Hymn-book, also a resolution of W. H. Watkins and C. G. Andrews, to inquire into the expediency of publishing the form of baptism and reception of members in all editions of the Hymn-book, have considered the same, and ask herewith to return them, and that they be referred to the Committee on the Hymn-book, where they can be more appropriately considered.

Respectfully submitted.

J. B. McFERRIN, Chairman.

J. E. COBB, Secretary.

W. S. Black, chairman of the Committee on Boundaries, presented the following report on item 3 of Report No. 2 of the Committee on Boundaries, which had been recommitted:

REPORT ON ITEM 3 OF REPORT NO. 2 ON BOUNDARIES.

Your committee have carefully considered item 3, Report No. 2, recommitted to them, with sundry petitions from appointments in the North Texas Conference, referred to them, against the adoption of this part of the report, and have decided to return the item unchanged, and recommend its adoption.

W. S. BLACK, Chairman.

S. X. HALL, Secretary.

Item 3 was read, and S. B. Watts moved its adoption.

J. H. McLean spoke against the report.

R. S. Finley called for the reading of the memorial of the East Texas Conference—which was read.

He advocated the adoption of the report.

R. Lane spoke against it.

H. D. Moore moved the previous question—the call was sustained, and the report on item 3 was adopted—yeas, 105; nays, 100.

W. S. Black, chairman of the Committee on Boundaries, presented Report No. 3 of that committee, which was read, and laid on the table under the rule.

D. C. Kelley, chairman of the Committee on Missions, presented Report No. 5 of that committee, which was read.

J. C. Simmons and others presented a Minority Report, which was also read.

Both reports were laid on the table under the rule.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revision, presented Report No. 8 of that committee, which was read, and acted on by items.

Item 1 was read, as follows:

“1. Memorials from Wm. Baker, T. L. Boswell, and Wm. F. Harris, asking the restoration to its former place in the Discipline of the question, ‘Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life?’” Non-concurrence.

T. L. Boswell moved to strike out the prefix “non.”

T. L. Boswell, Lovick Pierce, and others, advocated the amendment, and, after discussion, J. S. Key moved the previous question—the call was sustained, and the amendment was adopted.

On motion of A. Hunter, Rule XVII. was suspended, and item 1, as amended, was adopted.

Item 2 was then adopted.

On motion, the report was then laid on the table, to allow Report No. 1 on the Bible Cause to be presented.

H. F. Johnson, chairman of the Committee on the Bible Cause, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read, and laid on the table under the rule.

The Rev. A. S. Hunt, D.D., Corresponding Secretary of the American Bible Society, addressed the Conference in relation to the work of the Society.

The Chair responded in some felicitous remarks to the admira-

ble and impressive address of Dr. Hunt, to which the Conference had listened with profound attention.

A. H. Redford, Treasurer of the Bishops' Fund, presented his account with the Bishops for the last four years, which was referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

Conference then adjourned with the doxology, and the benediction by Lovick Pierce.

Thursday Morning, May 16, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Keener in the chair. Divine service was conducted by W. H. Potter.

The Minutes were read and confirmed.

Bishop Paine took the chair.

Leave of absence was granted to M. N. Shive, lay delegate from West Texas Conference; R. N. Price, clerical delegate from Holston Conference, whose place on the Committee on Publishing Interests is filled by J. P. Kelly; J. S. Burnett, clerical delegate from Holston Conference (for a few days).

W. G. Connor, North-west Texas Conference, is substituted by J. H. Richey on the Committee on Missions.

J. W. Lewis presented a petition from the official Boards of St. Louis Churches, praying for a union of the St. Louis and South-west Missouri Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

The order of business was suspended, to allow the following resolution to be offered and read:

Resolved, That after to-morrow, Friday, the 17th instant, no resolution, memorial, or petition, proposing a change of the Discipline, shall be entertained, except by a two-thirds vote of the Conference.

P. A. PETERSON,
PAUL WHITEHEAD.

W. G. Veal moved to amend by substituting Saturday. This motion did not prevail.

The resolution was adopted.

S. S. Bryant presented a remonstrance against the change of the boundaries of the South-west Missouri Conference. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

The Chair then called for Reports of Standing Committees.

On motion of H. F. Johnson, they were received and laid on the table without reading.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Reports Nos. 9 and 10 of that committee.

C. K. Marshall, chairman of the Committee on Sunday-schools, presented Reports Nos. 3 and 4 of that committee.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Reports Nos. 12, 13, and 14 of that committee.

P. P. Ellis, chairman of the Committee on Temperance, presented Report No. 2 of that committee.

Bishop Pierce presented Report No. 2 of the Committee on Appeals, as follows:

REPORT NO. 2 ON APPEALS.

Appeal of Tyree B. Harbin, elder, Illinois Conference—suspended.

Decision of the Illinois Conference reversed.

G. F. PIERCE, President.

ATTICUS G. HAYGOOD, Sec. Gen. Conf.

Atlanta, Ga., May 16, 1878.

S. Regester, chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. 6 of that committee, which was read, and, on motion of J. S. Key, was made the order of the day for Friday next, at 10 o'clock—a motion of H. F. Johnson to strike out the order of the day not being adopted.

The order of the day having arrived, A. H. Colquitt, chairman of the Committee on Introductions, introduced the Rev. Cyrus D. Foss, D.D., and the Hon. William Cumback, Fraternal Messengers from the General Conference of the M. E. Church, to the presiding Bishop, who introduced them to the College of Bishops and to the General Conference, which received them standing.

The Chair then delivered to the Secretary the credentials of the Messengers, which were read to the Conference, as follows:

ADDRESS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

DEAR FATHERS AND BROTHERS:—The Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, acting under the authority of the late General Conference, have appointed the Rev. Cyrus D. Foss, D.D., one of our ministers, and the Hon. William Cumback, one of our prominent laymen, as Fraternal Delegates to your Conference. These honored brethren, who occupy a prominent rank in our Church,

will represent to you our affairs, and will convey to you the expressions of our warmest regard and sympathy.

By order and in behalf of the Board of Bishops.

WILLIAM L. HARRIS, Secretary.

New York, April 12, 1878.

Lovick Pierce then presented to the Chair the Fraternal Address of the British Conference, with the accompanying letter to Bishop Marvin.

The Chair delivered the same to the Secretary to read.

The letter and Address were read, as follows:

35 TRINITY SQUARE, LONDON, S. E., ENG., October 2, 1877.

MY DEAR BISHOP MARVIN:—I beg to place in your hands the Address of the British Conference to the next General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, United States. As I am ignorant of your address, I direct this to the care of Dr. Lovick Pierce, whose address Dr. Punshon has kindly given to me. I shall be greatly obliged by a few lines from you, acknowledging the receipt of it. With kind regards, and pleasant reminiscences of my intercourse with you in Bristol. I remain, my dear Bishop Marvin, yours very truly, H. W. WILLIAMS.

To the Rev. Bishop Marvin, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, United States.

ADDRESS OF THE BRITISH CONFERENCE OF 1877 TO THE NEXT
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH, SOUTH, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

REVEREND AND DEAR BRETHREN:—It has afforded us no ordinary pleasure to receive amongst us, at our Annual Conference, the two brethren who were accredited to us as your representatives, Bishop Marvin and the Rev. E. R. Hendrix. Our interest in the occasion and object of their visit to the Old World would, of itself, have insured them a cordial welcome as messengers of the Churches; but a still deeper feeling has been awakened by the earnest and affectionate salutation borne by them from your Church to ours, and by the tidings which they have brought of your prosperity. Most heartily, dear brethren, do we reciprocate your Christian greeting, and join in your thanksgivings for the success that has followed your labors.

We rejoice in the many tokens of a broad and deep Christian culture amongst the members of your Church, in the prosperity of your educational institutions, and in the earnestness of your

endeavors to maintain and diffuse pure and elevated literature. Above all, we were filled with thankfulness as we heard your representatives speak of the happy results of the trials through which your country has passed, the deepened piety of your Church at home, and the revival of zealous effort in missionary labors abroad. May He who has thus blessed the times of trouble and distress send far more abundant blessing in these times of peace!

The accounts which Bishop Marvin has given us respecting your missionary work in Mexico, in Brazil, in China, amongst the Germans in Texas, and amongst the Indians, were to us full of interest. We look forward to great results from your labor in these fields, some of which are open to yourselves alone. We are persuaded that with you, as with ourselves, zealous missionary effort abroad will ever be fraught with blessed influence on Churches at home.

As to ourselves, we gratefully acknowledge that during the past year the good hand of the Lord our God has been upon us. In many places we have been permitted to witness a remarkable revival of religious power. Our annual returns show that, though our losses by death and by emigration have been very great, the number of members in our societies has been increased by nine thousand during the year. The number of candidates offering themselves for the work of the ministry has been larger than in any former year of our history. Our theological colleges are filled with earnest young men preparing for home and foreign spheres of labor. Our Foreign Missions have been well sustained, though the range of our operations has not been greatly enlarged during the year. The working of our various educational institutions has been successful, and in every department of Christian labor we have, through the Divine blessing, to record encouraging results.

Many circumstances have concurred to impress us very deeply with a sense of our responsibility for maintaining in its purity, and for declaring with increased fervency and force, the "message" of truth which from the beginning the Methodist Churches have received and proclaimed. The pretensions of an infidelity which claims to occupy as its own the fields of philosophy and of science, the organized conspiracy of Ultramontaniam against our liberties and our faith, the ritualistic and sacerdotal spirit that widely prevails, and the insidious errors that are finding their way into many Churches of our land, fill us with solicitude,

and impel us to greater zeal in the diffusion of sound doctrine. We are satisfied, dear brethren, that in these feelings and resolves you are one with us, recognizing with equal fullness of conviction these peculiar and weighty responsibilities. You will unite with us in fervent prayer to the "one Lord," that all our Churches may be knit together in "one faith."

Having this end in view, we would gladly strengthen the bonds of fraternal intercourse with all that "hold the Head," and especially with all branches of the Methodist Church. We greatly rejoice that in your own land the Churches of the North and the South are coming into closer fellowship. We shall gladly embrace every opportunity of proving the reality and the depth of our brotherly feeling. There are many difficulties which prevent us from acceding to your request that we should appoint a representative to attend your Conference next year. We trust that in the future such an appointment may be found practicable.

You will have our earnest prayers, dear brethren, that a special blessing may rest on your General Conference. With warm Christian affection and high esteem, we commend you to God and to the word of his grace.

Signed on behalf and by order of the Conference.

HENRY W. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

Bristol, August 10, 1877.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of five on Fraternal Correspondence be appointed by the Chair, to whom shall be referred all matters pertaining to the communications just made to this body, and to all kindred communications.

A. M. SHIPP,

O. P. FITZGERALD.

The Chair then presented the Rev. Dr. Foss, who made a truly fraternal address to the Conference, at the close of which the Chair presented the Hon. Will. Cumbach, who followed in a similar strain. Both addresses were received with great applause.

Lovick Pierce responded to the fraternal greetings of the Messengers, who had alluded to him as the patriarch of Methodism, being in his ninety-fourth year.

The Chair then responded in the same happy vein on behalf of the Conference, and of the entire Connection, to the addresses of the Messengers.

The whole scene was morally sublime, and at its close the Conference spontaneously arose and sung the doxology,

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
and without formal vote adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Friday Morning, May 17, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Paine in the chair.

H. A. C. Walker conducted divine service.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and confirmed.

Leave of absence was granted to W. W. Garland, lay delegate from White River Conference; J. S. Gaunt, lay delegate from Kentucky Conference; J. T. Miller, lay delegate from North Carolina Conference; S. B. Watts, lay delegate from Mississippi Conference—all on account of business, and E. M. Beckwith, lay delegate from Denver Conference, on account of sickness.

The Chair announced the names of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, to wit: A. M. Shipp, E. E. Wiley, O. P. Fitzgerald, A. H. Colquitt, J. D. Giddings.

The Conference ordered to receive the Fraternal Messengers of the Methodist Protestant Church at 11 o'clock this morning.

Bishop Pierce took the Chair.

On motion of N. H. D. Wilson, the regular order of business was suspended for fifteen minutes, for the purpose of presenting and referring resolutions.

The Conferences were called in order.

N. H. D. Wilson and L. S. Burkhead offered a resolution in reference to appeals from Episcopal Decisions. Referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

H. A. C. Walker and O. A. Darby offered a resolution suggesting a question to be added to the order of business in the Quarterly Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. R. Mood and G. J. Patterson offered a resolution on Quarterly Conference business. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

H. J. Adams and J. H. Grogan offered a resolution on examination of Quarterly Conference Journals. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

H. J. Adams and J. M. Beal offered a resolution on providing for minutes of the investigation preparatory to the trial of a traveling preacher. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

L. Pierce asked and, on motion, obtained leave to have read and laid on the table a paper for future consideration. Ordered to be printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate*.

J. W. Hinton presented a memorial from South Georgia Conference, on change in Ritual. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. W. Hinton presented a memorial from the South Georgia Conference, on licensing and examining local preachers, and their ordination. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

F. Law, J. G. Gurley, and H. D. Moore, offered a resolution proposing an additional question on passage of character in the Annual Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

W. H. Watkins and W. W. Bennett offered a resolution on publishing Episcopal Decisions. Referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

T. L. Mellen and H. F. Johnson offered a resolution on the change of Discipline in reference to duties of the Book Agent. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. A. Ellis and S. B. Watts offered a resolution on certificates from licentiates received from other Churches. Referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also one on receiving ministers from other Churches. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. R. Godwin, G. M. Jones, and others, a resolution prescribing a plan for the future management of the Publishing House at Nashville. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

W. Mooney presented a memorial from the Clarksville District, Tennessee Conference, on election of stewards by the Church Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

N. H. Lee, A. H. Redford, and S. X. Hall, offered a resolution on the traveling expenses of the Bishops. Referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

A memorial was presented from Cambridge Sunday-school, South-west Missouri Conference, on assistant Sunday-school superintendents and libraries. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

P. P. Ellis and A. T. Winsor offered a resolution on Annual Conference Sunday-school Boards. Referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

J. D. Vincil and W. M. Rush offered a resolution proposing a change of Discipline concerning the trial of a traveling preacher. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

J. B. A. Ahrens presented the Report of the German Publishing Committee. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

P. Gallagher and John W. Paulett offered a resolution respecting the bonding of certain officers. Referred to the Committee on Finance. Also a resolution on enlarging and prescribing duties, responsibilities, etc., of the Book Committee, Book Agent, etc. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

J. S. Burnett and F. Richardson offered a resolution on publishing a Church map, showing the boundaries of Annual Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

L. S. Reed and W. S. Black offered a resolution on the boundary line between the Virginia and North Carolina Conferences. Referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

W. H. Foster and W. H. N. Magruder offered a resolution on preparing a Hymn-book for social meetings. Referred to the Committee on the Hymn-book.

T. S. Wade and B. Craven offered a resolution on a uniform method of reporting statistics at the Annual Conference. Referred to the Committee on Revisal.

Bishop Paine made a statement in reference to a bequest of Mrs. White, of Maryland, of certain property in Louisiana to the M. E. Church, South. He has committed it in trust to R. J. Harp, as agent. The property has so decreased in value that it yields no profit.

The order of the day came in. Report No. 6 on Episcopacy was taken up and read.

P. A. Peterson moved as a substitute:

Resolved, That it is expedient to strengthen the Episcopacy by the election of two Bishops.

W. G. Veal called for the previous question—the call was sustained, by 116 yeas and 74 nays.

The question was put, and the substitute did not prevail.

The report was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 6 ON EPISCOPACY.

The Committee on Episcopacy respectfully report that they have maturely considered that portion of the pastoral address of the Bishops which was referred to them, and also several papers signed by individual members of your body, relating to election of Bishops, and the committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient and unnecessary at this time to increase the number of Bishops. S. REGISTER, Chairman.

S. S. BRYANT, Secretary.

The Reports of Standing Committees were called for, and the following were presented:

Report No. 7 on Itinerancy. Read and laid on the table under the rule.

Report No. 8 on Itinerancy was read.

Item 1 was adopted.

Item 2 was read—H. J. Adams moved to strike out the word “non.”

On motion of W. Mooney, the amendment was laid on the table.

On motion of J. D. Giddings, item 2 was adopted.

Item 3 was read.

W. A. Tarwater moved to amend by striking out the word “non.”

P. A. Peterson called for the previous question—the call was sustained—the question was put, and the motion to amend did not prevail.

Item 3 was adopted.

Item 4 was read and adopted.

The report, as a whole, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 8 ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy have bestowed careful thought upon each one of the subjects referred to them, which are named in this their eighth report, and do respectfully recommend *non-concurrence* in each of them, viz.:

1. A resolution signed J. J. Wheat and J. D. Cameron, asking that Presiding Elders on contiguous Districts be allowed to preside at each other's District Conferences in the absence of a Bishop.

2. A preamble and resolution signed by H. J. Adams and J. H. Grogan, asking to strike from the Discipline the provision that upon a call of one-fifth of the members of the General Conference the lay and clerical members shall vote separately.

3. A resolution signed W. A. Tarwater and T. C. Downs, providing for the arrest of the character of a traveling preacher who shall fail to make satisfactory efforts to discharge debts of his own creation.

4. Two resolutions signed by S. Black and J. F. Medley, asking that a Presiding Elder be not allowed to remove a preacher from one station, or appoint him to another, without the consent of the Quarterly Conference.

JOHN S. MARTIN, Chairman.

C. G. ANDREWS, Secretary.

On motion of J. E. Evans, it was ordered that reports to be laid

on the table under the rule be not read, but printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate*.

W. S. Black, chairman of the Committee on Boundaries, presented Report No. 4 of that committee, which was laid on the table under the rule.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 11 of that committee, which was laid on the table under the rule. He also presented Report No. 12 of that committee, which was read.

Item 1 was taken up.

P. Whitehead moved to amend by striking out the prefix "non."

Farther action on the report was suspended, in order to the reception of the Fraternal Messengers of the Methodist Protestant Church.

E. E. Wiley, chairman *pro tem.* of the Committee on Introductions, presented to the Chair the Rev. Alexander Clark, D.D., the Rev. George R. Barr, D.D., and the Rev. F. H. M. Henderson, D.D.

The Chair introduced the Fraternal Messengers to his colleagues, and then to the Conference, which received them standing.

The Secretary then read the credentials of the Fraternal Messengers, as follows:

ADDRESS OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—By the Convention of the Methodist Protestant Church, in session at Baltimore, Md., on this the twenty-third day of May, A.D. 1877, the bearers hereof, Alexander Clark, D.D., George R. Barr, D.D., F. H. M. Henderson, D.D., and Thos. J. Finch, have been duly appointed Fraternal Messengers to convey to you the Christian greetings of the Convention and of the Church it represents. We would hereby commend them to your Christian courtesy, and respectfully ask for them a hearing by your venerable body, while they may present the wishes and feelings of the Convention.

Praying in all earnestness that the great Head of the Church may richly crown all your deliberations and acts, we remain your fellow-laborers in the work of the everlasting gospel.

By order and in behalf of the Convention.

L. W. BATES, President.

G. B. McELROY, Secretary.

Dr. Clark stated that Mr. Finch was precluded by illness from attending.

The Chair then presented Dr. Clark, who addressed the Conference at some length in a most eloquent and fraternal style. His address was received with great favor and applause.

The Chair then presented Dr. Henderson, who followed in an address of some length.

The Chair responded in Bishop Pierce's happiest vein.

Dr. Clark stated that Dr. Barr excused himself from speaking on account of indisposition.

The Conference spontaneously rose and sung,

All hail the power of Jesus' name!

After which the regular business was resumed—being the consideration of the motion of P. Whitehead, to amend item 1 of Report No. 11 on Revisal, by striking out the prefix "non."

J. B. McGehee moved the previous question—the call was not sustained.

After discussion by A. R. Winfield, R. K. Hargrove, and D. C. Kelley, the hour of adjournment approaching, farther action on the report, with the amendment, was suspended, P. A. Peterson having the floor.

Thomas O. Summers and A. G. Haygood offered resolutions concerning the Centennial Celebration of the M. E. Church in America, which were read and referred to the Committee on the Ecumenical Conference.

C. K. Marshall, chairman of the Committee on Sunday-schools, presented Report No. 5 of that committee, which was laid on the table.

C. K. Marshall, chairman of the Committee on the Hymn-book, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was laid on the table.

E. H. Pottle stated that if he had been present at the time when Report No. 2 of the Committee on Credentials and the Minority Report were acted on, he would have voted for the Majority and against the Minority Report.

Conference adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Saturday Morning, May 18, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Pierce in the chair. Divine service was conducted by C. D. Oliver.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and confirmed.

Leave of absence was asked for and granted to W. H. Wheeler, lay delegate from Little Rock Conference (on account of urgent business); T. M. Jones, lay delegate from North Carolina Conference (on account of college duties); J. H. Harris, lay delegate from Alabama Conference (on account of illness). H. F. Johnson asked and obtained leave of absence for one day—W. L. C. Hunnicutt, reserve, takes his place.

E. H. Pottle asked for an Episcopal decision in regard to the seating of L. D. Dameron in the General Conference.

The following is the decision by the Bishop:

DECISION OF BISHOP PIERCE ON THE CASE OF L. D. DAMERON.

The action of the Conference simply seated Brother Dameron. On the first day of the Conference his name was enrolled—his right to a seat was questioned—a committee on credentials was raised, to whom this and other cases were referred. The committee reported against his eligibility. There was a minority report, recognizing his right. If this last report had been adopted, Brother Dameron would have been seated *de jure*; but this report was voted down. The report of the majority, which denied his eligibility, was also voted down. This result left him in his seat *de facto*.

On motion of R. S. Finley, the rule was suspended to allow him to present a substitute for item 3 in the Report No. 2 on Boundaries, adopted Wednesday, May 15.

On motion of I. G. John, item 3 of Report No. 2 on Boundaries was reconsidered.

The substitute was read and adopted, as follows:

SUBSTITUTE FOR ITEM 3, REPORT NO. 2 ON BOUNDARIES.

Resolved, That the boundary line between the East Texas Conference and the North Texas Conference, as defined in the memorial of the East Texas Conference, which was adopted by this General Conference at its present session, be, and the same is hereby, amended, so as to include in the North Texas Conference the towns of Terrill and Will's Point, and all that part of Kaufman county not now embraced in the Prairieville Circuit.

R. S. FINLEY,
JOHN H. McLEAN.

The line so changed is defined as follows: Beginning at the

Louisiana State line in Soda Lake and running up said lake to the mouth of Little Cypress River, and up said river to the line of Upshur county; thence along said line south, to the Texas Pacific Railroad; thence along said railroad to the east boundary of Kaufman county; thence down to the south-east corner of said county; thence west in a straight line to the Trinity River: *provided*, that all towns on the said railroad, as above defined, shall belong to the East Texas Conference, except the town of Will's Point, which shall remain in the North Texas Conference.

Bishop Wightman took the chair.

C. K. Marshall presented a package of drawings of churches, gotten up by the Church Extension Society of the M. E. Church, forwarded by said society.

On motion of J. B. McFerrin and C. K. Marshall,

Resolved, That we gratefully acknowledge the valuable present of the plans and reports of the Church Extension Rooms in Philadelphia, presented to this Conference, and we tender to the Rev. A. J. Kynett, D.D., Corresponding Secretary of the Board, our warmest thanks, for the beautiful and important publications.

S. Regester, chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. 7 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 7 ON EPISCOPACY.

The Committee on Episcopacy respectfully report that they have called the names of our Bishops, one by one, and have carefully reviewed the life and official administration of each for the past four years, and have found them blameless.

S. REGESTER, Chairman.

S. S. BRYANT, Secretary.

He also presented Report No. 8 of that committee, which was read in profound stillness.

By request, J. W. Lewis, who was present with Bishop Marvin in his last days, gave an account of the illness, death, and burial of the Bishop. He was followed by John Hogan, W. M. Rush, C. I. Vandeventer, Y. J. Allen (who gave an account of the Bishop's work in China), Dr. B. T. Kavanaugh (not a member of the Conference, who gave an account of the Bishop's work in the army), and T. M. Finney.

After the affecting testimonies borne to the glorified Bishop, the Conference adopted the report standing.

REPORT NO. 8 ON EPISCOPACY.

The Committee on Episcopacy ask leave to offer the following tribute to the memory of the late Bishop Marvin:

In view of the elaborate and full statements of dates and details of work, made in memorial-sermons and obituaries, we do not deem it necessary now to do more than to express the great sorrow that fills our hearts on account of the removal of this eminent servant of God from amongst us. For nearly twelve years he served the Church in the high official station of General Superintendent. In this capacity he illustrated, in an eminent degree, the zeal, the purity of life, the self-forgetfulness, and the entire-ness of consecration, that characterized the apostles of our Lord, thus furnishing the highest possible title to be recognized as their successor.

Before he was called to this high distinction, his life was wholly consecrated to the work of the itinerant ministry, and in that capacity he was unswerving in fidelity to the duties laid upon him. For him no sacrifice was too great, no work was too hard, that proposed to enhance the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. Endowed with high intellectual and spiritual gifts, he laid all upon the altar of the Church. Nor was the Church slow to recognize his worth. She ordained him to serve in her holy places, and intrusted to his hand a large part of her honor and interests. It may be said with propriety that he was never untrue to the trust thus confided.

A special emphasis is given to our sorrow by the fact that the Church of God is not permitted to reap the full benefit of his wise observations in his extended Eastern tour. Commissioned to go to the millions who sit in the region and shadow of death in heathen lands, he went as a messenger of light into their midst, and his accurate observation, and comprehensive appreciation of the situation, placed him in possession of a wealth of facts that would have been of incalculable benefit in the Church's great missionary work. His holy zeal for the kingdom of Christ, kindled to an intenser flame by the sight of millions under the pall of pagan darkness, would have infused itself into the Church, and her arm would have been nerved afresh for the conquest of the world to the Son of God. But the Head of the Church dis-

missed him from a field in which it was fondly hoped he would achieve such grand results. We bow to the mysterious dispensation, assured that though we know not now what He doeth, we shall know.

It is matter of profound gratitude to God that the grace on which our now sainted Bishop leaned so confidently was sufficient to preserve him blameless throughout his entire career as a minister of Jesus Christ. Wise in counsel, just in administration, blameless in moral and official life, he served his generation, and fell on sleep. Long may the example of his apostolical zeal and purity of life stand before his brethren who minister at the altar of the Church!

S. REGESTER, Chairman.

S. S. BRYANT, Secretary.

On motion of D. C. Kelley, it was resolved to release the estate of the late Bishop Marvin from obligation to pay the subscription of Bishop Marvin for the relief of the Publishing House.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the whole Church shares in grateful remembrance of Bishop Marvin's great services, and the whole Church claims the privilege of taking part in erecting a suitable monument to his memory, and providing a home for his family.

O. P. FITZGERALD,

C. D. OLIVER,

C. P. BERRY.

J. B. McFerrin, chairman of the Committee on Publishing Interests, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 2 ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

Your Committee on Publishing Interests would respectfully report:

Your committee have considered the resolution of J. S. Burnett and Frank Richardson, respecting the publication of a map marking the boundaries of our Conferences, and recommend that you do not concur with the said resolution.

J. B. McFERRIN, Chairman.

J. E. COBB, Secretary.

J. B. McFerrin, chairman of the Committee on Publishing Interests, also presented Report No. 3 of that committee.

T. L. Mellen, J. M. Richards, and others, presented a Minority Report.

Both reports were read and laid on the table for farther consideration. They are as follows:

REPORT NO. 3 ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

The committee to whom was referred the past history and present condition of the Publishing House of the M. E. Church, South, including our Sunday-school literature, and the *Christian Advocate*, beg leave to submit the following report:

According to the statements furnished by Dr. Redford and others, *Our Little People*, from October 19, 1870, to April 1, 1878, has paid expenses and returned to the Publishing House a profit of \$10,129.07.

The *Sunday School Visitor*, from November 6, 1866, to April 1, 1878, has paid all expenses and yielded a profit to the House of \$24,946.34.

The *Lesson Papers*, from October 19, 1870, to April 1, 1878, has cleared expenses and returned to the House a profit of \$35,490.29.

These are most gratifying results, and they show that our Sunday-school literature has met the wants of the Church, and has returned to the Publishing House during the past twelve years the sum of \$70,566.19.

These facts furnish indubitable evidence of the prudence and ability of those who have had under their control this department of our work. They have left the impress of skilled hands upon their labors, and they justly deserve the gratitude of the Church.

The *Christian Advocate*, from May 24, 1866, to July 1, 1878, has met expenses and returned to the Publishing House, in little less than twelve years, a profit of \$27,220.68. Here again we are able to chronicle a most pleasing result, for the *Advocate* has averaged to the Church a profit of more than \$2,000 per annum. During the period above named it has been the special organ of the Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisville, and Holston Conferences, and the general organ of the whole Church. Notwithstanding the success just announced, we are constrained to say that its circulation has been much too small, amounting now to little more than 9,000 subscribers. This number ought to be increased to at least 30,000.

While the able, learned, and overworked editor has done much for the cause of truth and righteousness, has greatly aided in establishing Wesleyan theology in this country, and while his

varied wisdom, long experience, and Christian conservatism, are felt and seen in almost every issue, still your committee must concede that their conception of a great Connectional organ has not been yet attained, and they believe that it cannot be reached by any man, whatever may be his resources, unless his time and talents are wholly consecrated to this great enterprise. The wants of the Church in this direction are numerous and pressing. We represent here, in the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, a mighty and growing people, possessing every variety of natural gifts, and in nearly all grades of intellectual and moral culture. Their living natures are deeply impressible, and in hundreds and thousands of instances they are hungry for the truth as it is in Jesus Christ. This vast multitude of immortal spirits can and ought to be reached by our great central organ, and its weekly visits should go like angels' visits to their homes and hearts. It should echo in the sinners' ears the thunders of the violated law, and should point the penitent believer to pardon, peace, and heaven, through Jesus Christ. Its rebukes of sin and corruption, wherever found, should constitute it one of the bulwarks of the Church, and its presentation of truth, virtue, integrity, and faith, should add to the incentives which urge our people toward the standard of perfection furnished by the life and ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ. Its weekly messages, as they go forth to the people in fresh, terse, and incisive editorials, should be, if possible, alike welcome and instructive to age and inexperience, to mature manhood and budding youth. Such an organ would be a boon to our Church, and it would furnish a suitable exponent of the intelligence, piety, and power of our beloved Zion. To make such a weekly as this, its editor must be "a man of one work"—must have time to consider the wants of the entire Church, to utilize the fixed and current literature of the age, and to pour forth in thrilling paragraphs the wisdom and strength drawn from these sources. Such a periodical would be the pride of Southern Methodism, and it would help to make a new epoch in her purity and progress. A weekly like this, and with such a mission before it as has just been shown, could afford to be generous and kind to the whole family of *Advocates* now in our bounds. No advantage should be sought, all friction should be carefully avoided, and every reasonable effort should be made to foster and sustain them. And your committee would earnestly recommend that the central organ

should be published at a price that would not undermine and destroy its less fortunate competitors in the field of Southern Methodism, and they believe that \$2.50 per annum is the lowest amount at which it should be issued.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. B. McFERRIN, Chairman.

J. E. COBB, Secretary.

MINORITY REPORT FOR REPORT NO. 3 ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

To the Bishops and Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South:

The undersigned, a minority of the Committee on Publishing Interests, regret the necessity for submitting a Minority Report, differing from that of the majority, on the condition and arrangement of the *Christian Advocate*, and the Sunday-school literature, published at Nashville, Tennessee; but believing the Majority Report inaccurate and defective in several important particulars, we are left with no other alternative, and with deference present this report:

1. Concerning the editorial management of the *Sunday School Magazine*, *Visitor*, *Lesson Papers*, and *Our Little People*, either by the Rev. Dr. Haygood or the Rev. Dr. Cunnyngnam, we have no words to say but words of commendation; but as to the expenses of conducting the Sunday-school literature, the profits thereon, or the expenses or profits of the *Advocate*, or the amount realized from advertisements, we have been furnished with no itemized accounts, but only the general statements contained in the Agent's Third Quadrennial Report, and as we have found other figures in his report—notably the statement of assets and liabilities—delusive, we know not what estimate to put upon the figures concerning the expenses and profits of either the *Advocate* or Sunday-school literature, and hence we are unable to congratulate the Church on the financial showing made in the Agent's report.

2. As to the business arrangement of the *Advocate*: So far as our information extends, the business of the *Advocate* appears to have been very improperly conducted in one very important matter, if in no other. For the enormous amount of advertising of various and numerous books written and published, and (some) still owned by persons connected with the *Advocate*, not one cent has ever been charged, collected, or paid, thus resulting, as we believe,

in great loss to the publishing department of the *Advocate*, as well as trifling profit to the individuals interested.

3. As to the editorial management of the *Advocate*: The editor we know to be able and learned, and we believe him to be of unsullied purity of character. To him our Church has been, and still is, indebted for many valuable contributions to Wesleyan theology and expositions of the cardinal doctrines of Methodism. Still the multiplicity of his labors in other matters has more or less interfered with his editorial duties. Besides, no one man can edit a paper, such as the organ of the General Conference ought to be, in a manner satisfactory in any appreciable degree to the majority of those interested in the welfare and usefulness of the *Advocate*. If we are to have but one editor, it is essential that he should devote his whole time and attention to the paper.

4. As to the circulation of the *Advocate*: The circulation of the *Advocate* is reported at 9,200 copies, of which not more than 3,600, we are reliably informed, are received by laymen at full price, while the residue are subscribed for by preachers at reduced rates, while some are furnished free of charge as exchanges, etc. The organ of the General Conference should, in our opinion, have a circulation of at least 50,000 copies, instead of the limited number which is exceeded by that of some of the organs of Annual Conferences, while some of the Annual Conference *Advocates* have a legitimate circulation much less than the Nashville *Christian Advocate*. The cause of this very limited circulation is twofold: (1) Too much space has been allotted to the Tennessee, Kentucky, and Holston Conferences, to the exclusion of matters of general interest to all the Conferences. In other words, the *Advocate* has been too local in its scope and contents. (2) Too much prominence has been given, and too many columns devoted, to matters in which those connected with the *Christian Advocate* have been personally and financially interested, so that the *Advocate* has seemed to be conducted in the behalf of a few instead of the many.

In conclusion, we would say that if the Nashville *Christian Advocate* is to be continued (as we earnestly hope it may) as the organ of the General Conference, it should not be the special organ of any Annual Conference, but should represent the whole membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; otherwise, its decline, which began two years ago, and resulted in a loss of more than \$900 during the last ten months, as shown by

the Agent's report, will go on with hastening strides until its redemption will be impossible.

Respectfully submitted.

T. L. MELLEN,

J. M. RICHARDS,

And others.

J. B. McFerrin, chairman of the Committee on Publishing Interests, presented Report No. 4 of that committee, referring to a Quarterly Review, which was read, and laid on the table for future consideration.

On motion of J. C. C. Winch, the rule was suspended for the purpose of taking up Report No. 6 on Missions.

The report was taken up, as follows:

REPORT NO. 6 ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions direct me to report that, in considering the revision of the Constitution of the Missionary Board, they have deemed it wise and expedient to eliminate from said Constitution all that pertained to "Domestic Missions." They recommend the insertion of a section, beginning on page 163, to be numbered Section 6, as follows:

OF HOME AID.

1. Each Annual Conference shall organize a "Board of Home Aid," in such manner as it may prescribe, the object of which shall be to aid weak charges, and to establish new ones in destitute places, and may provide rules and regulations for the raising of all revenue necessary for the purposes contemplated and the government of said Board, and the disposition of the fund raised.

2. It shall be the duty of the Presiding Elders to bring the subject of "Home Aid" prominently before the Quarterly Conferences of each circuit and station, and see to it that efficient and well-defined modes and plans be adopted for raising funds for said purpose.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

W. S. JOHNSON, Secretary.

The Minority Report is as follows:

REPORT OF MINORITY ON MISSIONS NO. 6 ON HOME AID.

We, the minority of the Committee on Missions, not being able to agree with the majority on the subject of Home Aid, beg leave to present the following, to form Sec. 6 of Chap. IX., page 163, of the Discipline:

SECTION VI.

1. Each Annual Conference shall have entire control of the home work within its bounds; and shall organize a Board of Home Aid, the object of which shall be to aid weak charges, and to establish new ones in destitute places.

2. The Board shall consist of a President, Vice-president, Secretary, and Treasurer, and as many Managers as the Conference may determine, to be elected by the Conference quadrennially.

3. The Board shall estimate the amount necessary to meet the demands of the work annually, and shall apportion the same among the several Presiding Elders' Districts.

4. The revenue of the Board shall be derived from annual collections in every congregation, and from such other plans as may be adopted by the Church and congregation to raise the money for this object.

5. The Board, the Presiding Elders, with the President of the Conference, shall constitute a committee for the appropriation of the funds.

6. The Board, through its Secretary, shall make a full report of all its work to the Conference annually.

J. C. SIMMONS,

A. R. WINFIELD,

A. P. WARTERFIELD.

The Report of the Minority was withdrawn.

P. A. Peterson moved to amend Report No. 6 by striking out the word "Aid," and inserting "Mission," wherever it occurs in the report.

J. E. Edwards moved to amend the amendment by substituting the word "Evangelization" for "Mission."

C. G. Andrews moved as a substitute the words "Church Extension."

After discussion, Thos. Branch moved the previous question—the call was not sustained.

On motion of R. S. Finley, the report, with the proposed amendments and substitute, were laid on the table, so that the Discipline may remain as it is.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 13 of that committee, which was laid on the table without reading.

Leave of absence was granted to J. J. Davis, lay delegate from Florida Conference, on account of urgent business.

P. Whitehead, chairman of the Committee on the Ecumenical Conference, presented Reports Nos. 1, 2, and 3, of that committee, which were read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ECUMENICAL
CONFERENCE.

The committee to whom was referred the communication of the Bishops of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report that they have inquired carefully concerning the cases of Church-property to which allusion seems to be made, and find that the writers are under misapprehension respecting the facts of these cases and the attitude of our people in the premises. We are satisfied that the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church has failed to obtain title to disputed property only in cases in which State laws, as administered by the lawfully appointed judiciary, have refused such title, particularly in cases where the congregations of colored people have gone as a whole (or with few exceptions) into other Communions. Where our colored brethren cannot establish a Society, however feeble, the transfer of title avails nothing; and in some States a decided majority have been able to carry with them the Church-property, against even a respectable minority sustained by all the moral and financial aid of our white trustees.

We know of no cases where property, formerly belonging to our colored people, has been sold, and the money diverted to other purposes. No funds for such sales are in our hands or in any way under our control.

We recommend the passage of the following resolutions:

1. That the "Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America" has still, as it has always heretofore had, our warmest sympathy and most cordial Christian affection.

2. That we direct all Boards of Trustees among us still holding title to property erected for the use of our colored members to transfer the title to trustees duly appointed by the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, whenever this can be done without violation of State laws or contravention of the vested rights of congregations.

3. That we earnestly recommend to our people everywhere to give substantial aid to the efforts made by our brethren of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church to establish institutions for

the improvement of their people, believing that no worthier object of Christian liberality appeals to them for assistance.

Respectfully submitted.

PAUL WHITEHEAD,
N. H. D. WILSON,
A. G. STITT,
H. A. C. WALKER,
Committee.

REPORT NO. 2 OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ECUMENICAL CONFERENCE.

The committee to whom was referred the various papers relating to an Ecumenical Conference of Methodists, and especially the communication from a large committee of correspondence appointed by the Methodist Episcopal Church in November, 1876, submit the following report:

The Church which began with Mr. Wesley's organization of the "United Societies" in 1739 has, in one hundred and thirty-nine years, spread over almost the entire globe. Some representatives of it are found in nearly every place where civilized man has a home. By a natural operation of the voluntary principle such multitudes have formed a large number of distinct sects. Besides the three most important bodies, the Wesleyans of Great Britain, and the Methodist Episcopal Churches, North and South, in this country, there are no fewer than at least *ten* others in Great Britain and her colonies, and in this republic *six* white and *three* colored organizations, besides one or two in foreign countries, such as the French Wesleyans. The magnitude and importance of these Methodist Churches, when viewed as a whole in the religious world, are seldom realized. A fair estimate places their ministers as more than thirty thousand in number, and their membership as exceeding four millions. Truly God has wrought a prodigious work by the hand of our fathers and their successors in the ministry! No such religious movement is on record.

But although this vast multitude of believers hold substantially the same Arminian theology, and are distinguished by the same peculiar usages, and have many important interests in common, there has not been any recognized medium of communication and consultation among them. Until recently there was no fraternal recognition of one of the largest of the bodies by the most numerous and powerful of the Methodist organizations.

Happily, that barrier to a General Council or Conference of the Methodism of the world is removed, as we trust, forever.

The benefit of an Ecumenical Conference of the Methodists of the world would undoubtedly be great. Besides the discussion of a great variety of topics of surpassing interest to all the family of Methodism, and the reviews of the multiplied agencies which Methodism has brought into play for the evangelization of the world, a new impulse would be given to the tendency, already great, to harmony and unfeigned concord among Methodists of different Communions. And the sight of such a great family reunion would fasten the eyes of the world upon us, producing a discussion of Methodist history and work in the periodical literature of the Christian world, "a discussion from which," as the M. E. Church committee well say, "Methodism has every thing to gain, and nothing to lose."

As one of the practical results of an Ecumenical Conference, one of the papers referred to by us suggests the preparation of a hymn-book for the whole Methodist family. Your committee are not prepared to venture an opinion as to the feasibility of such a project, being little able to conceive the actual obstacles to its success which might arise. They can, however, join heartily in the wish that such a thing might be done. If the spectacle of all the Sunday-schools of our land reciting on each Sabbath the same lesson from Scripture be truly described as *sublime*, among the results of Christian labor of our days, what should we call the singing of four millions of Methodists out of the same hymn-book! The great achievements of Christianity have, however, always been the *unseen*—the "mighty working" of a kingdom which "cometh without observation"—and we should look for the greatest and most pervasive benefits of an Ecumenical Conference of Methodism in its effect upon the *spirit*, the *experience*, the *hopes* and *zeal*, of so great a people. The dying words of our father, under God, "The best of all is, God is with us," would have a new meaning to those assembled in such a Conference, and "the fruit" of such a state of mind communicated to those who sent them, "would shake like Lebanon."

Your committee recommend for your adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, heartily approve of the proposed Ecumenical Conference of Methodist Churches.

Resolved, That the Bishops of our Church be, and are hereby, authorized and directed to appoint a committee of seven, consisting of two of the Bishops, three other ministers, and two laymen, who shall be fully empowered to arrange for such a Conference, and to represent our Church in the correspondence necessary thereto; and to appoint delegates to represent the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in the Ecumenical Conference, whenever it may assemble.

Respectfully submitted.

PAUL WHITEHEAD,
N. H. D. WILSON,
A. G. STITT,
R. ALEXANDER,
Committee.

REPORT NO. 3 OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ECUMENICAL CONFERENCE.

The committee to whom was referred the resolution of Thomas O. Summers and A. G. Haygood, respecting the celebration of the Centenary of American Methodism in 1884, having duly considered the same, beg leave to report, in their judgment, the subject is one of importance to all the families of Methodism on this continent; and that it is desirable that whatever step may be taken by our Church in the matter shall be taken at this session of the General Conference.

The preamble and resolutions being an unexceptionable expression of what should be the feeling and action of the Conference, we return them with the recommendation that they be adopted.

Respectfully submitted.

PAUL WHITEHEAD,
A. G. STITT,
N. H. D. WILSON,
R. ALEXANDER,
Committee.

Whereas, the year 1884 will be the Centenary of American Methodism—the Methodist Episcopal Church in America having been organized in the city of Baltimore, December, 1784; and whereas, that event ought to be duly commemorated by all the Methodists on this continent; therefore,

Resolved, That the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, now assembled in Atlanta, Ga., deem it desirable that a Conference of Methodists in the United States, the Dominion of Canada, and other parts of the Continent of

America, be held in the city of Baltimore, at Christmas, in the year 1884, that being the centenary of the organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America.

Resolved, That the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, be requested, in behalf of this Conference, to open a correspondence on this subject with the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Presidents of the several Canada Conferences, and of all other Methodist bodies on this continent.

Resolved, That the Bishops and Presidents aforesaid be, and the same are hereby, requested to mature a programme for the solemn observance of the centenary of the organization of American Methodism, in the city of Baltimore, Md., December 25, 1884.

THOMAS O. SUMMERS,
A. G. HAYGOOD.

E. E. Wiley, J. W. Paulett, George Stewart, A. M. Shipp, C. D. Oliver, J. B. McFerrin, offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, the General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church and of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church are now in session, respectively, in Knoxville and Lebanon, Tenn.; therefore,

Resolved, That we convey to these bodies our cordial greetings and Christian love, wishing them an harmonious session, and prosperity in all their Church enterprises.

Resolved, That our Secretary be, and he is hereby, instructed to transmit the same to the respective Assemblies.

The time was extended to allow a resolution offered by J. L. Parkes, S. H. Dent, and others, touching certain bequests of J. T. Colvin to widows and orphans, to be read.

It was read, and after considerable discussion was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Conference then adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Monday Morning, May 20, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Paine in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by J. D. Cameron.

The Minutes were read and confirmed.

Leave of absence was granted to S. M. McGehee, lay delegate from Little Rock Conference (after May 22); L. M. Wilson, lay delegate from Baltimore Conference; W. R. Black, lay delegate from South Carolina Conference (after to-day); J. W. Rush, clerical delegate from the Alabama Conference, on account of

family affliction, his place being filled by Mark S. Andrews; H. Lily, lay delegate from North Carolina Conference, C. G. Montgomery takes his place on the Committee on Missions; J. H. Grogan, lay delegate from North Georgia Conference, substituted by E. M. Pendleton, reserve; J. R. Pace, lay delegate from Virginia Conference (after to-day).

Geo. Fagan, lay reserve delegate from South Georgia Conference, takes the place of M. W. Dozier.

J. B. McFerrin, chairman of the Committee on Publishing Interests, presented Report No. 5 of that committee, which was read.

T. M. Finney, from that committee, presented a Minority Report, which was read.

The reports are as follows:

REPORT NO. 5 ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

The Committee on Publishing Interests beg leave to submit their Report No. 5, as follows:

In the absence of full and satisfactory information upon the subject of the New Orleans Depository and some other matters referred to special sub-committees, and not yet reported upon, we deem it advisable, in view of the advanced state of the other business of the General Conference, and the importance of giving ample time to the Conference for the consideration of the grave interests referred to us, to submit without farther delay the following statements and suggestions, reserving other matters for subsequent reports:

The report of A. H. Redford, Agent, as found on the first page of his Third Quadrennial Exhibit, shows the assets of the Publishing House to amount to the sum of \$569,091.84, and the liabilities to the sum of \$270,508.97, leaving a balance in favor of the House of \$298,582.87. These figures are delusive, in our judgment, as estimates of value, in any purpose or plan of liquidation, in the following particulars, viz.:

1. In estimating the merchandise too high, considering its character and condition, as the residuum of an old stock, in large measure. Especially is this the case, if it is to be thrown at once upon the market.

2. The accounts and bills receivable are put at par, without reference to losses by reason of insolvency, non-payment, cost and delay of collections. We fear that not more than one-half of

this sum will be realized, if the accounts and notes are turned over to other parties to collect, and yet we believe that largely more than this amount can be collected if they are retained and collected by a judicious and active agent for the Church.

3. The real estate is put at *cost*, with the addition of about \$15,000 of expense occasioned by the taking down and rebuilding of one of the walls of the House, and the loss sustained by the burning of the old building. It is conceded by all who have been consulted on the subject, including the Agent himself, that although it would be worth much more to us if we were able to retain it, it cannot be expected to bring more than \$125,000 upon the market.

4. The New Orleans Depository debt reported, we have good reason to believe, from all the information we have been able to obtain, ought not to be estimated as available assets at all, and is not really relied upon as such by the Agent at Nashville.

5. The stereotype plates, upon the market, we believe could not be relied upon to produce more than \$20,000. They are estimated by Litton, the expert, at the sum of \$79,373.24. If retained and used by us, they would probably be worth his estimates.

6. The wood-cuts and electrotypes we would reduce to one-half—that is, to the sum of \$2,304.70.

7. The type account and fixtures, engines and presses, and mailing and folding machines, and safe and furniture, estimated in the Exhibit at \$59,360.33, we put at half—say \$29,680.17.

8. The lots in Nashville, estimated at \$1,600, we set down at \$1,000.

All other items of the Exhibit may be regarded as substantially correct.

The result of the recasting of the statement of assets will be as follows:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Merchandise on hand..... | \$ 17,214 19 |
| Cash..... | 116 82 |
| Accounts and bills receivable..... | 30,347 12 |
| Real estate..... | 125,000 00 |
| Stereotype plates and foundry..... | 20,812 12 |
| Wood-cuts and electrotypes..... | 2,304 70 |
| Type account and fixtures, mailing and folding machines, safe and furniture in office..... | 29,680 17 |
| Copyrights..... | 1,367 00 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Paper, ink, and sheet-stock..... | \$ 4,617 67 |
| Two lots in Nashville..... | 1,000 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$232,459 79 |

The difference in these estimates is as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Agent's estimate..... | \$569,091 84 |
| Our estimate..... | 232,459 79 |
| | <hr/> |

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Difference..... | \$336,632 05 |
| Litton the expert's estimate corrected..... | \$336,821 60 |
| Our estimate..... | 232,459 79 |
| | <hr/> |

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Difference..... | \$104,361 81 |
| Balance in favor of House, per Litton's statement corrected..... | 54,849 44 |

(See statement filed, marked "A.")

I. STATEMENT "A."

Statement of assets as made by expert, Isaac Litton, and others, except as to real estate, upon which he placed no valuation, and the New Orleans Depository, which ought to be omitted.

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Merchandise (90 per cent. of assessed value)..... | \$ 30,985 55 |
| Cash..... | 116 82 |
| Bills receivable and accounts (10 per cent. off)..... | 54,624 82 |
| Real estate (our valuation)..... | 125,000 00 |
| New Orleans Depository..... | 000 00 |
| Stereotype plates..... | 79,373 24 |
| Stereotype foundry (10 per cent. off)..... | 4,552 11 |
| Type and fixtures..... | 7,223 65 |
| Engines, presses, and fixtures..... | 25,817 00 |
| Mailing machines and fixtures, type, etc..... | 1,147 24 |
| Furniture in office, and safe..... | 775 00 |
| Wood-cuts, electrotypes, etc..... | 4,021 50 |
| Copyrights..... | 1,367 00 |
| Paper, ink, sheet-stock, etc..... | 4,617 67 |
| Two lots in Nashville (our value)..... | 1,000 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$336,821 60 |

LIABILITIES.

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Bonds (old)..... | \$100,000 00 |
| Bonds (new)..... | 15,100 00 |
| Bills payable..... | 142,533 91 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Book accounts..... | \$ 20,521 25 |
| Interest on bonds to 1st April..... | 2,797 00 |
| Unpaid taxes..... | 1,000 00 |

\$281,972 16

Balance in favor of Publishing House..... 54,849 44

We deem it unnecessary to go into the causes of these losses, and this depreciation, beyond a mere assignment of some of them, to wit:

1. Injudicious expenditure in building.
2. Rebuilding rendered necessary by defectiveness of one of the main walls of the building.
3. Fire.
4. Excessive and injudicious credit.
5. High rates of interest and discount, and cost of exchange, under the methods of business adopted and carried out by the Agent.
6. High salaries.
7. General depreciation of values in consequence of the monetary pressure since August, 1873.

II. LIABILITIES.

These do not vary materially from the statement of the Agent. We restate the same upon the basis of the corrections made by Litton, the expert, as follows, to wit:

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Bonded debt secured by lien upon the real estate, fixtures, and other property, at 8 per cent..... | \$ 2,000 00 |
| At 7 per cent..... | 13,100 00 |
| At 10 per cent..... | 100,000 00 |
| Total bonded debt..... | <hr/> \$115,100 00 |
| Floating debt: | |
| Bonds or notes bearing 6 per cent. interest..... | \$ 5,867 58 |
| Bonds or notes bearing 8 per cent. interest..... | 33,589 34 |
| Bonds or notes bearing 10 per cent. interest..... | 31,070 09 |
| Notes not due at date of Agent's report, but which will mature wholly by close of General Conference, say 1st June..... | 58,373 64 |
| Note, or bond, to Widows' and Orphans' Fund..... | 8,500 00 |
| Taxes..... | 1,000 00 |

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Interest to April 1st, time of Agent's report..... | \$ 5,328 74 |
| Open account on ledger, as per statement No. 22 of expert..... | 20,521 25 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$279,350 64 |
| Off amount of assets as ascertained by us..... | 232,459 79 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance against House..... | \$ 46,890 85 |

The interest on the above items has been, and is now, accumulating at the rate of \$60 per day.

III. RELIEF.

Is there any relief from this confessed indebtedness and embarrassment? If so, what is it? This is the great absorbing question to be answered by this General Conference, by reason of its relations to the subject and to the Church, which looks with anxious solicitude to us for the solution of this most difficult problem.

With, we trust, a becoming sense of the gravity of the question, and the issues involved in it, we respectfully submit that it is needless to review the past, except for two purposes, viz.:

1. To secure a settlement of the transactions of the present Agent, based upon the principles of equity and justice, which govern in all cases where the relation of principal and agent exists. This settlement, in our judgment, should be made by a committee of competent, experienced, firm, fair-minded men, who will devote the necessary time and attention to it, and who should have such clerical and other assistance as may be necessary. It would be utterly impracticable to make such settlement here and now, in view of the brevity of our stay, and the absence of important details of information which would be essential to its intelligent completion.

2. To obtain light to guide us in the future.

After more than two weeks of careful investigation and earnest consideration, we are prepared to recommend:

1. The continuance of the Publishing House under an Agency so modified and guarded as to give it greater conservatism and a larger assurance of safety in its operations, and also to commend it to a more hearty and liberal support by the Church in all our borders.

2. The sale, with reference to the liens already outstanding upon it, of a part or the whole of our real estate, and every other

species of property now belonging to the House, so far as the same can be spared, and the prompt application of the proceeds to the payment of its present outstanding debts.

3. The issue, whenever in the judgment of the College of Bishops it may be deemed desirable by themselves, of an appeal to the Church for farther donations, to aid in extricating the House from its embarrassment.

In order to render effective the several suggestions we have made, we offer for adoption by the General Conference the following regulations, to be inserted in the Discipline, and in the Journal of this General Conference, in place of what appears in the Journal of the General Conference of 1874, on pages 554, 565, 566, as regulations for the Publishing House, which regulations are intended to be repealed by this action.

EXHIBIT "B."—I. PUBLISHING HOUSE.

There shall be an establishment in the city of Nashville, Tennessee, for the purpose of manufacturing and publishing books, to be called "The Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South," and to be under the control of the General Book Agent, to be called the Book Agent of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and a committee, to be called the Book Committee, all of whom shall be elected by the General Conference—the Book Committee upon the nomination of a committee of nine, to be appointed by the Chair.

The object of this institution shall be to advance the cause of Christianity, by disseminating religious knowledge and useful literary and scientific information in the form of books, tracts, and periodicals.

II. DUTIES OF THE GENERAL BOOK AGENT. •

The General Book Agent shall have charge of the funds, stocks, fixtures, and real estate, and all other property of the Publishing House, and he shall be responsible to said Conference for the prudent use and safe management of the same, under the direction of the Book Committee. He shall make monthly reports to the Book Committee, showing the exact state of his business and the condition of the House, and shall make an Exhibit on the first day of June in each year, and publish the same in the *Nashville Christian Advocate* for one month, to the several Annual Conferences, and give a full account of the state and progress of the business to the General Conference. All his reports and exhibits

shall be carefully audited by the Book Committee, and certified to by the same.

He shall publish such books and tracts only as are approved by the Book Editor, to be hereinafter provided for, and in case of difference between the Book Agent and the Book Editor, the matter shall be referred to the Book Committee. He shall supply as far as practicable the demand of the Church for books, tracts, and periodicals, availing himself of all the facilities of other establishments for their publication at the cheapest rates, and in all his investments for the manufacturing of books he shall be governed strictly by the principles of economy.

He shall sell the books for cash or its equivalent.

He shall make no investments in grounds, houses, or permanent fixtures, without the authority of the Book Committee.

III. THE BOOK COMMITTEE.

There shall be a Book Committee of nine—four clerical and five lay—five of which Committee shall reside in or near Nashville, Tennessee.

They shall have full power,

1. To prescribe rules and regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter for the government of the Agent elected by the General Conference to conduct the business of the same.
2. To require said Agent to report to them at least once a month the state of the current business of the House, and the result of the operations of the same during that period.
3. To settle with the present and any future Agent upon the principles which govern the relations between principal and agent, embracing his individual transactions with himself as Agent, and ascertain the state of the accounts between him and said House, when and as they may think proper, provided such settlement with such future Agent shall be made at least once a year, and the result of the same be reported to the several Annual Conferences, and also to the General Conference.
4. To suspend said Agent at any time for mismanagement or misconduct in office, and appoint another temporarily in his stead for such time as they may deem necessary, during the intervals of the General Conference.
5. To enter into negotiations with the creditors of the House for an extension of time upon, and an adjustment of, their debts.
6. To see that said debts be paid as rapidly as practicable, out

of collections from the debts due the House, and out of any other funds that may be secured for this purpose, and according to some regular system.

7. To dispose, through the Agent, of three-fourths of the real estate, consisting of the Publishing House building, and the ground upon which the same is located, and of all other real estate, provided such sale can be made upon fair terms; and if such sale of part cannot be advantageously made by reason of its connection with the residue of said property, then to sell the whole of the same, and all, or so much as they may deem best, of the fixtures, machinery, and furniture of every kind, if a reasonable price can in their judgment be obtained; therefore, such sale in either event to be made with the sanction and approval of the creditors who have liens upon the same, and the securities and indorsers who are liable for the other debts of the House. In the event such consent cannot be obtained, said Committee is authorized to institute such proceedings, through the Agent, as may be deemed necessary to secure such sale of part or the whole, as may be deemed advisable, the proceeds of the same to go to the payment of the debts of the House, according to their several priorities.

8. To fix the salaries of the Agent and Editors at Nashville, provided such salaries do not exceed the following sums, to wit: To the Agent, \$2,500; to the Book Editor, \$—; to the Editor of the *Christian Advocate*, \$2,500; to the Editor of Sunday-school publications, \$2,500. During the intervals of the General Conference, they, and one or more of the Bishops, shall have the power to fill vacancies in their own body, the Agency, or in the editorial corps at Nashville.

9. To keep a faithful record of all their proceedings, and to make a full quadrennial report of all their acts and doings to the General Conference.

IV. DEPOSITORIES.

The New Orleans Depository shall be closed up as soon as may be practicable, and its affairs wound up by the Committee, through the Agent, in such manner as they may find to be most judicious.

V. NO OTHER DEPOSITORIES

shall be established.

VI. GENERAL CONFERENCE PERIODICALS AND EDITORS.

The General Book Agent shall be authorized to publish a weekly

periodical, or newspaper, to be called the *Christian Advocate*, the editor of which shall be elected by the General Conference.

There shall also be a Book Editor, who shall edit all the books of our publication, except our Sunday-school books, which shall be edited by the Sunday-school Secretary. The General Book Agent shall be authorized to publish the *Sunday School Magazine* and *Lesson Papers*, the *Sunday School Visitor*, *Our Little People*, and such other Sunday-school publications as they may deem proper, all of which shall be edited by the Sunday-school Secretary, who shall be elected by the General Conference. It is provided, farther, that if additional editorial labor becomes necessary, the Book Committee, with the General Book Agent, and one of the Bishops, in the interval of the General Conference, shall have authority to elect an additional editor, or editors, who shall come under the same rule as to salary with the General Book Agent and the other editors.

VII. PROCEEDS OF THE PUBLISHING HOUSE.

The proceeds of the Publishing House shall be appropriated to no other purpose than its own legitimate business.

VIII. CONFERENCE RELATIONS OF THE AGENT AND EDITORS.

Each of the above-named officers elected by the General Conference, if he be a traveling preacher, shall be a member of such Annual Conference as he may select, with the approval of the Bishops.

IX. Neither said Agent nor Book Committee shall have the power to add to the debt of the Publishing House; and if they shall find, upon investigation, that it is impracticable (either with or without the consent of the creditors) to carry on said House for the purposes and under the rules hereinbefore prescribed, they are invested with full power and authority to put the same into liquidation, to collect and marshal all its assets, and settle as far as possible the legal liabilities of said House, having due regard to the interests of the Church and the creditors.

X. The said Book Committee shall at all times have free access to the books, accounts, and papers, of said House for purposes of examination, and shall keep a faithful record of their proceedings, and make a full quadrennial report thereof to the General Conference.

It will be perceived that this scheme and these views favor the continuance of the "Publishing House," under a *change* of Agency

—under an Agency of more limited powers, subordinated in its general operations to a Committee, which shall have the power usually conferred upon a Board of Directors.

We do not propose, however, that all the property be retained, or that the past and present system of business generally shall be continued. We think it desirable that every article of property not essential to the conduct of the business, upon such scale as may be determined upon, be sold at the earliest practicable period consistent with the interests of the House and its creditors. We are advised that three-fourths of the House may be sold at a fair price, and still leave enough for the operations of the business. The sale of this and the other property which is subject to lien can only be made, of course, in pursuance of the terms of the instruments providing for such security, unless the creditors secured therein shall consent to other terms, or the court shall sanction provisional sales of said property, made subject to their ratification upon a proper case made—all parties in interest being represented. It is reasonable to presume, however, that if the General Conference is judicious and fortunate in the selection of an Agent and Committee, and these officers shall act with such discretion as to inspire confidence, these difficulties can be overcome without a resort to any species of litigation, however friendly.

Collections of accounts and bills receivable should likewise be actively pressed in such modes as may be deemed most efficient.

An appeal to the liberality of the Church may also be made under the new order of things, whenever the Committee, in conjunction with the Agent and a majority of the Bishops, shall deem it expedient and proper.

It is suggested that this can only be done with hope of success in the event said officers of the Church shall be clearly of the opinion that the Publishing House, or what shall remain of it, can be extricated from its embarrassments, and that such sums as may be contributed will not be lost.

It is deemed of the utmost importance that, to the carrying out and perfection of these suggestions and plans, some arrangement should be made with the creditors of the Publishing House for time upon demands now due and pressing, until the means before referred to, and the profits flowing from the new business, can be obtained and utilized.

We have endeavored to secure a conference with the creditors, with a view to such an arrangement, but, in consequence of the

difficulties attending such a meeting, have only succeeded in part.

Those who have communicated with us have evinced the most liberal spirit, and seem disposed to do whatever is reasonable and right under the circumstances, and expressed a most earnest sympathy with us in our embarrassments, and a most ardent desire that we may be able to project and adopt some measure that will bring relief alike to them and ourselves. We cannot doubt but that such a spirit will be shown by all as they have opportunity to exhibit their good will.

In the event, however, that nothing can be done in this direction under the new organization and management proposed, we submit that the only other alternative will be to go into liquidation, a result much to be deplored, because of the losses which must necessarily be inflicted alike upon the Publishing House, the Church, and the creditors, by reason of forced sale of property—most valuable to us, but likely to be subjected to most ruinous sacrifices—upon a bad market.

Your committee close with the expression of the ardent hope that by reason of the course outlined in this report, or some other that may be preferred as better, if such may be found, this most deplorable result—so much to be deprecated by every member of the great Church we are attached to, and with whose every interest we are so closely and earnestly identified—may be avoided, and this great institution, so useful and beneficent in its operations in the past, may yet be relieved—in a large measure saved—and thus assure and perpetuate to the Church the blessings our fathers intended it to confer.

J. B. McFERRIN, Chairman.

J. E. COBB, Secretary.

MINORITY REPORT NO. 5 ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

The undersigned, a minority of the Committee on Publishing Interests, beg leave to report as follows:

We have been unable to agree with the Majority Report No. 5 of the committee in respect to one feature of its plan of relief to the embarrassments of the Publishing House, and for its future management. Our objection relates to the character and scope of its business—whether it can and ought to be continued, as heretofore, as a manufacturing and publishing establishment, or reduced and confined exclusively to that of publisher, thus providing for the conversion of the assets and applying the proceeds

to the payment of the debt. In the matter at issue, therefore, there exists the underlying question, whether or not the business shall be put in liquidation. In the Majority Report this is undetermined, and is left for decision either way, at their discretion, to the Book Committee. It is our opinion that the full disclosure of the financial condition of the House, contained in the Report of the Majority, will enable the General Conference to determine this question intelligently and definitely; and that the decision should be made by itself, rather than by the Book Committee, as a more timely and authoritative and satisfactory determination and declaration concerning the future policy of the business of the House. We believe that the facts in the case, disclosed and undisputed, manifestly and imperatively demand a change of policy. We therefore recommend that the plan reported by the majority shall be so modified as that the Book Committee shall be required to put the business in a course of liquidation, subject, in their best judgment, to such conditions as shall preclude undue sacrifice of the assets. For this purpose we propose the adoption of the following amendment to the Report of the Majority, namely: Insert at the close, and as a part of the first sentence of the first item of the "Plan," the following words: "Provided, however, that as soon as practicable the business of the House shall be reduced and confined to that of a publisher, and not of a manufacturer."

| | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| T. M. FINNEY, | S. B. JONES, |
| G. M. BAIN, JR., | ASA HOLT, |
| W. H. POTTER, | I. G. JOHN, |
| ISAAC HARDEMAN, | J. E. COBB, |
| J. B. McGEHEE, | JOHN CALVIN JOHNSON, |
| J. B. MCBRYDE, | J. M. BOLAND, |
| CHAS. F. HARVEY, | O. T. HUNT, |
| W. S. CHICK, | JOHN H. DYE, |
| S. M. McGEHEE, | J. H. JOHNSON, |
| W. P. BARTON | |

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the Report No. 5 of the Committee on Publishing Interests, and also Report No. 5 of the minority of said committee, be laid on the table and printed, and be made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock.

P. A. PETERSON,
T. M. FINNEY.

D. C. Kelley, chairman of the Committee on Missions, presented Report No. 7 of that committee, which was laid on the table.

On motion of J. E. Evans, all similar reports are to be thus disposed of, without reading.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 14 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 14 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to submit Report No. 14:

They have had under consideration various papers, signed Walker Lewis, Milton Adkisson, and Thos. M. Cobb; W. W. Duncan and O. A. Darby; H. J. Adams and J. M. Beall; J. A. Ellis and S. B. Watts; H. F. Johnson and R. H. Mahon; respecting the course of study, licensing, and eligibility to orders, of local preachers, and find that the subject-matter of these papers has already been reported on by your committee. The papers, therefore, are returned to the Conference.

Also papers signed A. T. Winsor and J. F. Rucker; A. A. Robinson and T. L. Boswell; H. A. C. Walker; touching trials of members, have been anticipated in previous reports of your committee. The papers are herewith returned.

A paper signed J. D. Vincil and W. M. Rush, in reference to the trial of itinerant ministers, is for the same reason returned to the Conference.

They have also considered a paper signed J. M. Richards, T. M. Shugart, and O. M. Davenport, touching the duty of the preacher in charge concerning class-leaders, and see no necessity for the change proposed.

A paper signed H. F. Johnson and T. L. Mellen is herewith returned, because the subject of inefficient preachers has been considered in another report of this committee.

Your committee recommend non-concurrence in the paper of S. Black and J. B. McFerrin, conferring the right upon Annual Conferences to fix the boundaries of Districts, and upon the District Conference to fix the bounds of circuits, as an encroachment upon the right of the Bishop to arrange the work, and make the appointments.

We also recommend non-concurrence in the paper of H. Clay Ewing and A. T. Winsor, proposing to change the time of the meeting of the General Conference from April or May to January or February.

Your committee see no necessity for the resolution proposed by H. A. Crittenden, J. M. Matthews, and others, touching the right of local preachers to receive members into the Church, as the Discipline we think sufficiently explicit on that subject.

We also recommend non-concurrence in the recommendation in the memorial of the Clarksville District Conference, signed A. T. Goodloe, Secretary, proposing to give the Church Conference the election of stewards. We think the Quarterly Conference the proper body for this election. Moreover, they now have the power to refuse to elect any man to office for a failure to meet his financial obligations to the Church, or for any other cause—no legislation is needed to confer this power.

The papers signed P. H. Whisner and S. Rodgers are herewith returned, with the request of the signers that they be referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

The paper signed T. L. Mellen and others, on the duties of Book Agent, is returned, that it may be referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 15 of that committee, which was laid on the table under the rule.

Also Report No. 16 of that committee, which was read.

W. O. Gray moved its adoption.

W. Mooney moved to take it up by items. This motion was laid on the table.

W. Mooney moved to amend item 7, by striking out the word "non." This motion was laid on the table.

H. C. Settle moved to amend item 5, by striking out the word "non." This motion failed.

R. S. Finley moved to amend item 19, by striking out the word "non."

T. L. Mellen moved to lay that motion on the table. This motion prevailed.

J. S. Key moved the previous question—the call was sustained—the question was put, and the report, as a whole, was adopted, as also Report No. 17, presented therewith, as follows:

REPORT NO. 16 ON REVISAL.

Your committee having duly considered the resolutions and

other papers referred to them, respectfully submit the following report:

1. A paper submitted by R. M. Lockwood, on "verbal alterations to the Ritual."

2. Resolution by J. M. Boland and Hardie Brown, on transferring paragraph, page 121, on class-meetings, to page 75.

3. By same, in relation to change in Ans. 2, page 92, whereby "without first being examined" shall be substituted by "before examination and approval."

4. By same, in relation to change on page 102, by striking out the word "men."

5. By H. C. Settle and N. H. Lee, in relation to order of business in the reception into full connection in the Annual Conference.

6. By Jas. R. Mood and Giles J. Patterson, proposing to add to 8th question, page 58, "and how has it been applied?"

7. By Wellborn Mooney, W. Burr, and others, proposing amendment in relation to use of Lord's Prayer and Apostolic Benediction in public worship.

8. By John E. Edwards and Paul Whitehead, proposing to amend by striking out on page 75 the words which direct the reading of the General Rules.

9. By C. K. Marshall and W. M. Rush, proposing foot-note in the ordination service.

10. By H. J. Adams and J. H. Grogan, proposing new question in Quarterly Conference business in relation to examination of Quarterly Conference record by a committee.

11. By R. K. Hargrove, J. B. McFerrin, and D. C. Kelley, proposing to indicate in the Rubric scriptures appropriate to different classes, which may be used at discretion instead of Psalm and Lesson of the Burial Service.

12. By Giles J. Patterson and H. A. C. Walker, in relation to admission of "hearsay evidence."

13. By R. K. Hargrove and W. Burr, in relation to authentication of Minutes of Quarterly Conference.

14. By Leroy M. Wilson and S. S. Roszell, on order of public worship.

15. By W. G. Connor and C. G. Andrews, proposing change on page 71, by which Bishops shall be required "to travel during the year as far as practicable, in order to preach," etc., instead of "through the Presiding Elders' Districts," etc.

16. By J. D. Cameron, H. W. Foote, and W. P. Barton, proposing to combine into one form "ministration of baptism to such as are of riper years" and "the reception and recognition of Church-members."

17. By A. P. Warterfield and others, to prevent the mortgaging of Church-property.

18. By J. E. Groce, J. B. Stevenson, and J. M. Boland, providing "that the whole Church observe the same days of fasting and prayer."

19. By John E. Edwards and L. S. Reed, proposing to amend so as to allow election and ordination at the end of one year.

20. By F. Law and others, proposing to amend Ans. 2 to Ques. 7, page 45, in relation to examination of the life and official administration of the preachers.

21. By John L. Wheat and B. M. Messick, in relation to "a register of the baptized children."

22. By H. F. Johnson, proposing to insert a new section, "Of Technicalities and Amendments," and providing that an accused person shall not be acquitted on account of mere informality in the charge and specifications; and that the same may be amended by the committee.

23. In relation to reception of ministers from other Churches.

24. By H. A. C. Walker and O. A. Darby, proposing to require of each local preacher a written report of his ministerial work during the year.

25. By John A. Ellis and S. B. Watts, proposing a form of certificate to be furnished a licentiate when received from another Church.

In all the above your committee respectfully recommend non-concurrence, the proposed changes being deemed unnecessary, or already sufficiently provided for in the Discipline.

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

REPORT NO. 17 ON REVISAL.

Your committee report that the resolution of Jas. R. Mood and Giles J. Patterson, proposing a question in relation to election of superintendents of Sunday-schools, is returned, the same having been already approved.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented

Report No. 18 of that committee, which was laid on the table under the rule.

C. K. Marshall, chairman of the Committee on Sunday-schools, presented Report No. 6 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 6 ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

Your committee, to whom was referred the memorial of the Sunday-school of Cambridge, Mo., on electing, at the time and in the same manner as the Sunday-school superintendent is elected, an assistant superintendent, have considered the request, and do not recommend its adoption. They deem it competent for a Sunday-school to elect a librarian, a secretary, and a treasurer, and by the same right an assistant superintendent when desired. They also do not regard the request of the same memorial to adapt *Our Little People* to our infant people, because the lesser catechisms meet the needs of those too young to study *Our Little People* lessons.

The committee have considered the resolution signed by P. P. Ellis and A. T. Winsor, "on organizing Sunday-school Boards in the several Annual Conferences," and are of opinion that the case is already provided for, and therefore do not recommend any change in the Discipline.

C. K. MARSHALL, Chairman.

D. G. GODWIN, Secretary *pro tem*.

W. P. Harrison, chairman of the Committee on Education, presented Report No. 3 of that committee, which was read, and, on motion of J. E. Evans, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 3 ON EDUCATION.

The Committee on Education have carefully considered a paper signed by A. B. Stark and J. J. Wheat, suggesting the propriety of establishing a General Conference Board of Education, with auxiliary Boards in the Annual and Quarterly Conferences, and beg leave to report that they regard any action upon this subject at the present time as inexpedient.

W. P. HARRISON, Chairman.

The following communication was then presented by the Chair, and read:

ATLANTA, GA., May 21, 1878.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

DEAR BRETHREN:—As Fraternal Messengers from the General

Convention of the Methodist Protestant Church, we take pleasure in handing you herewith a copy of the revised Discipline of our Church, and also a copy of the Journal of the Reunion Convention of 1877. In the latter we call your attention to the action of our Church on the subject of an Ecumenical Methodist Conference (see page 46), and would add that whatever action the other branches may take on this question, our Church will be ready to affiliate in the spirit contemplated by the great movement.

Our committees of correspondence and visitation are already officially appointed, and we only await the farther action of the larger branches of the great Methodist family.

We shall confidently expect a fraternal deputation from your honored body to our next General Conference, to meet in Pittsburgh, Pa., in May, 1880. Yours, in the bonds of the gospel,

ALEXANDER CLARK, Chairman,
GEORGE R. BARR,
F. H. M. HENDERSON.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the documents were received with thanks, and ordered to be placed in the archives of the General Conference.

The following communication was then presented by the Chair, and read:

ATLANTA, GA., May 20, 1878.

To the Bishops and Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—I beg leave to invite your attention to the following resolution adopted by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Baltimore, in May, 1876:

“Resolved, That Thursday, May 6, 1880, be the day for the reception of Fraternal Delegations, and that the evening of that day, and such other evenings as the Conference may order, shall be set apart for listening to addresses from delegates; and that all bodies in correspondence with us be fully advertised in our letters, and by our visiting delegates, of the day ordered by this body for the reception of Fraternal Delegates, their letters, and their words of greeting.”

The next General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church is appointed to be held in the city of Cincinnati.

Permit me to add that I am sure the cordiality of its welcome of your Fraternal Delegates will emulate, though it cannot surpass,

your example; and will make Cincinnati as bright a spot in their memory as Atlanta must ever be in that of my co-delegate and myself. I am very truly and fraternally yours,

CYRUS D. FOSS.

On motion of E. E. Wiley, the communication was received, and ordered to be entered on the Journal.

Dr. Foss was then brought forward by the Chair.

He took a most affectionate leave of the Conference.

C. K. Marshall responded in earnest terms of affection.

The Chair (Bishop Paine), in the name of his colleagues of the Episcopal College, and of the General Conference, and the Connection they represent, amid much emotion, took leave of the Doctor, giving him the parting hand, accompanied by most earnest assurances of fraternal regard.

A. M. Shipp, chairman of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The committee to whom were referred all matters pertaining to the Address of the British Conference, and all similar communications, respectfully report for adoption by the Conference the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the College of Bishops be authorized and requested to appoint two delegations, consisting each of one minister and one layman, to bear fraternal greetings of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to the General Conferences respectively of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Protestant Church, at their next sessions, in return for the warm expressions of regard and sympathy by which, through their representatives, our hearts have been moved at this session of our Conference.

A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

Bishop Doggett took the chair

W. P. Harrison, chairman of the Committee on Education, presented and read Report No. 4 of that committee.

On motion of N. H. Lee, the report was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 4 ON EDUCATION.

After the most careful inquiry that it was in their power to make, your committee have been unable to present a complete table of statistics of the institutions of learning under the care of our Church. We have prepared, and present herewith, as

complete returns of the universities, colleges and high schools, as our limited means of information allow. [See tabular statement.]

That only one of these, Vanderbilt University, located at Nashville, Tennessee, is fully endowed, furnishes a subject of painful reflection. The generosity of a single public-spirited citizen of the United States excels, in available endowment, the united contributions of three-fourths of a million of Southern Methodists. We do not believe that our people are indifferent to the cause of education, but we cannot resist the conclusion that the wants of the times, the necessities of the Church, and the claims of the rising generation, are not fully understood and properly appreciated among us. We are aware that much progress has been made in the South in the direction of common school education. Notwithstanding our vast territories are occupied by comparatively small populations, the efforts of States, societies, and individuals, have awakened an interest akin to enthusiasm in many places. But we do not regard the establishment of a system of common school education by the State as diminishing in the least the responsibility of the Church of Christ. In the nature of the case, only elementary principles can be taught in public schools, and all positive religious instruction must, of necessity, be excluded. Denominational differences can only be harmonized in State institutions by a compromise which presents the Christian system as a bare and lifeless skeleton. To the various evangelical denominations in our land, the cause of a thoroughly Christian and sanctified learning must be committed. Whether our own Church is fully meeting this responsibility is, we fear, a question which can only be answered in the negative.

The general characteristic of the eighteenth century was indifference to the claims of the Christian religion. The principal feature of the nineteenth century is a tendency to scientific skepticism. The influence of the American Revolution upon the continent of Europe resulted in the overthrow of dynasties, the destruction of time-honored institutions, and the inauguration of an era of change and uncertainty which still presents problems unsolved to the statesmen of Christendom. The alliance of Church and State for so many generations identified in great measure the truths of Christianity with the special forms of civil government, and when the awakened spirit of the people began to question the divine rights of civil rulers, the doctrines of the gospel were subjected to the same rigid and unfriendly criticism.

Monarchical institutions which had been rendered sacred by the spiritual sanction of an ecclesiastical hierarchy could not perish without shaking the foundation of the Church which protected and sustained them.

The enlightened wisdom of our American statesmen declared the independence of the Church of Christ, dissolved her union with the State, and decreed, in the letter of our Constitution, absolute liberty of conscience. Every man has the inalienable right to worship God according to his own convictions of the requirements of the Divine Word. But liberty must not degenerate into license. Personal responsibility to God, illustrated and enforced by the moral power of religious truth, must take the place of civil authority in matters of faith, and the untiring zeal of the Christian Church must be taxed to inculcate the ennobling principles of evangelical Christianity. The early training at the domestic altar, the holy influences of the Sabbath-school, and the frequent exhortations of divine truth from the pulpit, are potent agents in the work of preserving and propagating the vital forms of a pure and earnest religion. But the rapid diffusion of intelligence, the wonderful increase of facilities for acquiring knowledge, and the natural tendency to intellectual pride which distinguishes our fallen race, are constant monitors, warning us of dangers to be averted.

If it be true that "the undevout astronomer is mad," it is none the less true that there are not a few such madmen at this moment engaged in sowing the seeds of a philosophy which would destroy the Christian religion and bring back again the age of bewildering doubt and hopeless darkness which made paganism a moral desolation. Some of the most prominent men of the nineteenth century, in the world of science, are bending all the energies of their most exalted genius to the inculcation of theories which are calculated, if not designed, to destroy the credibility of the Holy Scriptures. The inspired record is challenged with a courage which can only be born of hatred, and the shallow deductions of superficial observers are proclaimed as triumphant refutations of the word of God. Discordant, self-contradictory, and mutually destructive, as many of these scientific *dicta* are, they have been, one and all, declared with such boldness and sublimity of confidence, and propounded in such captivating and easily intelligible terms for the eyes and ears of the multitude, that many have accepted them as unquestionable truths. The young are espe-

cially liable to this pernicious influence of scientific skepticism. Impatient of all restraints, glorying in the liberty which casts off the burden of self-denial, and gives the rein to every passion, they are taught to regard piety as superstition, and faith as the badge of intellectual weakness. The sage and learned quarterly, the sprightly and captivating monthly, and the ubiquitous daily newspaper, all coöperate in this work of destruction. No doctrine of the Bible is too sacred to escape the taunt, the jeer, or the prurient witticism of sensation-loving paragraphers, and the holiest lives of the followers of Jesus furnish no protection against the prying curiosity which impales private character in the public prints, under the pretense of a jealous guardianship of the morals of society.

We are aware that the chief glory of the Church of Christ is a pure and spotless walk and conversation among men. Without a thorough, all-transforming religious experience, the acquisitions of human learning, and the revelations of physical science, are mere elements of power, as competent for evil as they are capable of good. Hence we plead with greater earnestness for that knowledge which is baptized with the Holy Spirit, and consecrated of God to the work of moral as well as of mental regeneration. We believe that the Christian ministry is ordained of God to lead the way by precept and example, guiding the world into the highest forms of truth.

We affirm that the time has fully come for an earnest revival of learning among our people. The study of the Holy Scriptures in the original tongues is not sufficiently esteemed by our ministers. Seeking to avoid the pedantry which displays its folly in the hackneyed phrases of foreign languages, we forget that the vital atmosphere of inspiration still lingers in the letter of the sacred texts. We affirm that the tongues which enshrine the records of Moses and the sublime visions of Isaiah, the words of Jesus and the doctrinal teachings of Paul, can never become dead languages until the trump of the archangel shall sound the knell of time. We affirm that the inspired word and the physical universe are the two volumes of the one Book of God. There is no contradiction between them anywhere, and he who does not strive to understand them both, as far as he may, has wandered from the path of duty, and deprived himself of an exalted privilege.

We know that distinctions are often drawn between college-

bred men and self-made men. We acknowledge no such distinction. All men who attain to eminence in Church or State are self-made men. No appliances of the college or university can substitute or supply the capacity for thorough education. But he who, by slow and painful stages, ascends the hill of science by his own unaided efforts can sooner mount the desired eminence if he have skilled and competent guides and helpers in the way. The noble men who have devoted their lives to the instruction of youth in our institutions of learning are best prepared to appreciate the importance of the ardent ambition which is foiled by no obstacle, and repressed by no difficulty, in the pursuit of knowledge.

We appeal to the ministry of our Church, and exhort them, as leaders and teachers of our people, to rally to the support of our high schools, colleges, and universities. Their intelligent appreciation of the demands of the age in which we live will kindle the fires of enthusiasm in the Church at large, and thus adequate measures will be devised for the endowment of our literary institutions. That class of men whose labors have been patiently given to the cause of liberal Christian education, amid the long-continued pressure of poverty and neglect, will find their hands strengthened and their hearts encouraged by a generous recognition of their merits, and the young men of the ministry will be stimulated to ceaseless industry in qualifying themselves to meet any and all enemies of Christianity upon their own chosen fields of conflict.

Let us have no unseemly jealousies or petty rivalries among the friends of particular colleges and universities. There is a field already ripe for the harvest within the reach of all our institutions of learning. Our people are not too poor to furnish the money for their endowment, and the pupils for their patronage. Let us adopt the motto which has nerved multitudes of successful business men in all departments of human endeavor: *Either find a way or make one.*

We recommend the following resolutions for adoption by the General Conference:

Resolved, That we recognize the hand of a gracious Providence in the munificent gift which established and endowed Vanderbilt University, and rejoice to hear that it has already entered upon its field of extensive and rapidly increasing usefulness.

Resolved, That we earnestly commend our literary institutions,

male and female, as worthy of the highest confidence, most liberal patronage, and ample endowment at the hands of our people.

Respectfully submitted.

W. P. HARRISON, Chairman.

The Chair then brought forward the Rev. Drs. Clark, Barr, and Henderson, Fraternal Messengers of the Methodist Protestant Church, who made, severally, affectionate parting salutations. They were eloquently and cordially responded to by the Chair (Bishop Doggett).

A motion of A. S. Andrews, to reconsider the vote by which Report No. 4 on Education was adopted, did not prevail.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 15 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 15 ON FINANCE.

Your committee to whom was referred a resolution adopted by the Quarterly Conference of Little Osage Circuit, Neosho District, South-west Missouri Conference, March 23, 1878, respecting a devise by J. J. Bearden of half of his estate to the M. E. Church, South, have made examination of the matter mentioned in said resolution, and after corresponding with a party living at Nevada, Missouri, the locality where it is reported that said Bearden died, and having had the probate records examined, are unable to find that any such man as J. J. Bearden ever lived or died, testate or otherwise, and return herewith said resolution. But considering that there may have been a mistake of locality stated, and the possibility that a careful examination of the matter may reveal some rights belonging to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That Brother T. M. Cobb be, and is hereby, appointed an agent of this General Conference, to collect and receive any legacy which may have been devised to the M. E. Church, South, by J. J. Bearden, deceased, and pay the same over to the Treasurer of the Board of Missions, if collected.

R. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

Also Report No. 16 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table under the rule.

Leave of absence was granted to J. D. Giddings, lay delegate from Texas Conference, after to-day.

On motion of A. H. Colquitt, chairman of the Committee on

Introductions, twelve o'clock to-morrow was designated as the time for the reception of the Fraternal Delegates from the Canada Methodist Church.

Conference adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop.

Monday Afternoon, May 20, 1878.

Conference met at the appointed hour, Bishop Doggett in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by T. Stanford.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and confirmed.

Leave of absence was granted to R. A. Hardaway, lay delegate from Alabama Conference, and W. B. Harrison, lay delegate from Louisville Conference.

J. C. C. Winch presented a Minority Report of the Committee on Finance, to be laid on the table with Report No. 16 of that committee.

P. Gallagher presented a copy of the will of Mrs. Ann Christiana Kent, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

W. S. Black, chairman of the Committee on Boundaries, presented Report No. 5 of that committee, which was received and laid on the table, without reading.

Report No. 3 on Publishing Interests was taken from the table and recommitted—the Minority Report was withdrawn.

Report No. 6 on Itinerancy was taken up with the substitute, and read, as follows:

REPORT NO. 6 ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy have patiently and carefully considered all the papers referred to them in regard to changes in the Presiding Eldership, and respectfully present, as their deliberate conclusion on the subject, the recommendation that no change be made in the Discipline in regard to the Presiding Elder question.

JOHN S. MARTIN, Chairman.

C. G. ANDREWS, Secretary.

Atlanta, Ga., May 15, 1878.

SUBSTITUTE FOR REPORT NO. 6 ON ITINERANCY.

Let the report of the committee be substituted by the following resolution:

Resolved, That the proviso to Answer 8, Question 3, Section 2, page 70, of the Discipline, on the Duties of Bishops, be stricken

out, so that the answer shall read as follows: "To see that the Districts be formed according to his judgment."

J. E. EDWARDS,

J. D. VINCIL.

J. E. Edwards advocated the adoption of the substitute.

A. R. Winfield spoke against it—J. F. Medley and W. W. Bennett for it—J. Boring spoke against it.

On motion of T. L. Mellen, the time was extended to allow him to finish his speech.

S. Black advocated the substitute. Thos. Branch and W. L. Nugent followed on the same side—R. H. Mahon opposed the substitute.

T. N. Meriwether moved to lay the substitute on the table—a motion of J. E. Edwards, to take the vote by yeas and nays, did not prevail.

The substitute was laid on the table.

A motion of J. B. McGehee to adjourn did not prevail.

The report was then read, and P. A. Peterson moved an amendment by striking out all after the words Presiding Eldership, and inserting the words which close the report.

T. N. Meriwether moved the previous question—the call was sustained, the amendment was adopted.

The report as amended was adopted by a rising vote—yeas 154, nays 68, as follows:

REPORT NO. 6 ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy have patiently and carefully considered all the papers referred to them in regard to changes in the Presiding Eldership, and recommend that the proviso to Answer 8, Question 3, Section 2, Chapter III., page 70, be amended by striking out the word "fourteen," and inserting "twenty," so that it shall read, "*provided* that no District shall contain more than twenty appointments." JOHN S. MARTIN, Chairman.

C. G. ANDREWS, Secretary.

Atlanta, Ga., May 15, 1878.

On motion, Conference adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop.

Tuesday Morning, May 21, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Doggett in the chair. Divine service was conducted by J. E. Edwards.

The Minutes were read and confirmed.

A memorial on temperance, from Mrs. M. McClellan Brown, Pittsburgh, Pa., was presented by the Chair, and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

A communication from C. C. Spain and others, from Kaufman, Texas, deprecating any change of boundaries in the Conference affecting their relation to the North Texas Conference, was presented, read, and received as information.

L. Palmer, lay delegate from North Alabama Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence. H. C. Allen, lay delegate from Arkansas Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence after to-morrow.

Bishop Doggett in leaving the chair admonished the members to observe due decorum, and discharge their duties with all convenient dispatch.

Bishop Kavanaugh took the chair.

A resolution offered by R. Paine, jr., J. B. McFerrin, and J. C. C. Winch, respecting the claim of the Publishing House before Congress, was read, and referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

A motion of C. W. Miller, to discharge the Commissioners on the claim, was, on motion of J. E. Evans, laid on the table.

W. W. Bennett moved to suspend the order of the day to allow J. B. McFerrin, chairman of the Committee on Publishing Interests, to present Report No. 6 of that committee, respecting the New Orleans Depository, which was read and laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

The order of the day having arrived, Report No. 5 of the Committee on Publishing Interests, was read—also the Minority Report.

On motion of W. W. Bennett, the Report of the Majority was taken up by items.

Item 1 was read.

E. A. Yates moved to amend by striking out the words "manufacturing and."

J. E. Cobb spoke in favor of the amendment. At the expiration of his time, W. Mooney moved to extend the time—this motion did not prevail.

A. R. Winfield, R. A. Young, and W. P. Harrison, spoke against it.

The order of the day being the reception of the Rev. Dr. Doug-

lass, Fraternal Messenger from the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, he was presented by A. H. Colquitt, chairman of the Committee on Introductions, to the Chair (Bishop Kavanaugh), and by him to his colleagues of the Episcopal College, and then to the Conference, by which he was received standing.

The Address of the General Conference of the Methodist Church in Canada, which was read, is as follows:

ADDRESS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST
CHURCH IN CANADA, TO THE BISHOPS, MINISTERS, AND
MEMBERS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
SOUTH, OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

HONORED FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—"Grace be unto you, and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ." Though we have been for many years acquainted with your "work of faith and labor of love," yet, up to the present time, no formal correspondence nor intercourse has taken place between Canadian Methodism and that large branch of the Methodist brotherhood of which you are the recognized overseers.

Several circumstances appear to us to indicate that the present is a propitious time to send you our first fraternal Christian greetings. Important changes have recently taken place in our own organization as a Church. We have felt, for some years, a desire by the expression of our interest in the work you are doing for the Master, to strengthen those ties of Christian affection that should bind in unity of spirit all the different members of the family of God who hold the "one Lord, one faith, one baptism."

An agreeable visit from the venerable Dr. T. B. Sargent, of your Church, during the present meeting of our General Conference, has materially conduced to give this desire a practical expression. We have heard with sincere satisfaction his statements concerning the growth and extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; and the successes which have attended your labors throughout the vast field that has been assigned to you by the Head of the Church, as the sphere of your operations. It is specially gratifying to us to know that so soon after the disastrous civil war, which must have been sadly inimical to every religious interest, Southern Methodism has regained its wonted vigor; and is so successfully prosecuting its work in every department of Christian enterprise.

Dr. Sargent did not come amongst us as a stranger. Many of

us cherished kindly remembrances of a former visit, fourteen years ago, which secured for him on the present occasion a cordial welcome to our homes and hearts. His kindly Christian spirit, his words of tender, godly counsel, and his impressive and scriptural ministrations, have left with us pleasant memories that shall not soon be effaced. We rejoice to inform you that probably in no part of the world has our beloved Methodism won more signal victories for Christ than in the Dominion of Canada. Our pioneer preachers in the new settlements of this country, amid toil and danger, scattered precious seeds of truth that have yielded rich harvests of golden grain.

Our educational institutions are rendering noble service in preparing the youth of our country for an efficient discharge of life's great duties; and, by the dissemination of a sound religious literature, we are successfully combating the heresy and skepticism that are so fiercely and extensively assailing the faith of the children of God.

On our missions to the Indians we have witnessed many glorious evidences of the power and sufficiency of the old gospel of life and love to transform the rude and barbarous tribes of the wilderness into the "sons and daughters of the Lord Almighty," while in all the chief centers of population we occupy a front rank in the work of supplying the religious wants of the people.

We have also successful missions to the French Romanists of the Province of Quebec; to the German population of the Province of Ontario; to the rapidly extending communities of the new Province of Manitoba and the great North-west; to the growing settlements and aboriginal tribes of the Pacific coast; on the shores of Newfoundland, and among the genial isles of the Bermudas; and within the last two years, through God's blessing, and the increased liberality of our people, we have been enabled to send two missionaries to lift up the standard of the cross among the enslaved and benighted multitudes of Japan.

For several years past there have been signs of a growing desire for an organized union of the different branches of Canadian Methodism. Practical measures have been adopted for securing this desirable object; and, as the result of this movement, our present General Conference, which represents over one thousand ministers, and more than one hundred thousand Church-members, is the first meeting of representatives from three bodies, formerly known, respectively, as the Wesleyan Methodist Church

in Canada, Wesleyan Methodist Church of Eastern British America, and the New Connection Church of Canada, and is composed of ministerial and lay delegates, in this respect adopting a reform which your own Church was the first of the large Methodist denominations to inaugurate. And, though some of the minor bodies are not yet ripe for complete organic unity, still the spirit of uniting love is rapidly melting away the icy walls of separation and sectarian exclusiveness; and we trust, before long, the Methodism of our Dominion will present an unbroken front to the enemies of the cross of Christ.

In these times, when an atheistic philosophy and a diluted Christianity prevail so extensively, it will doubtless gratify you to know that, though our fields of labor are widely separated, we are one with you in contending earnestly for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints, and in faithfully proclaiming, in all their divine fullness, these "glad tidings of great joy," which are now, as in the days of the hero-fathers of Methodism, "the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth."

We have appointed as our representatives to your next General Conference, the Rev. George Douglass, LL.D., our Vice-president, and the Hon. Judge Wilmot, D. C. L., brethren beloved.

Our earnest and prayerful desire for you is, that you may be enriched with peace and unity of spirit, and that your evangelistic labors may be crowned with abundant tokens of the Divine approval and benediction. May the God of all grace "supply all your need, according to his riches of glory, by Christ Jesus!"

Signed by order and on behalf of the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, Toronto, Ontario, this first day of October, 1874.

E. RYERSON, President.

DUNCAN D. CURRIE, Secretary.

The Rev. Dr. Douglass then addressed the Conference in a speech of surpassing eloquence and power, glowing with fraternal affection, which was received with unbounded applause.

The Chair (Bishop Kavanaugh) responded in a similar vein.

The Conference arose spontaneously and sung,

Blest be the tie that binds.

Thus closed a most pleasing and profitable episode in Conference business.

The following resolutions were then offered and adopted:

Whereas, the Committee on Public Worship have requested Dr.

Douglass to occupy the pulpit to-morrow night in the audience-room above; therefore,

Resolved, That this General Conference do hereby earnestly join in the request that the Doctor preach at that time before this body.

E. E. WILEY,

C. K. MARSHALL,

A. W. WILSON,

THOS. BRANCH.

Resolved, That we do hereby fix 12 o'clock to-morrow as the time for the reception of the Fraternal Delegates from the African M. E. Church in the United States of America.

A. H. COLQUITT, Chairman.

J. L. Parkes, lay delegate from Tennessee Conference, asked leave of absence, but it was not granted.

Conference adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop.

Tuesday Afternoon, May 21, 1878.

Conference met at the appointed hour, Bishop Wightman in the chair.

B. Craven conducted divine service.

The Minutes were read and confirmed.

Bishop Kavanaugh took the chair.

John Hogan, lay delegate from the St. Louis Conference; A. G. Stitt, J. W. Rodman, lay delegates from the Kentucky Conference; and A. B. Stark, lay delegate from the Louisville Conference, asked and were not granted leave of absence.

O. W. Carr, lay delegate from North Carolina Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence, on account of family affliction.

Bishop Wightman took the chair.

N. T. Lupton moved that the Conference adjourn *sine die* at 1 o'clock P.M. Thursday next.

J. B. McFerrin offered an amendment that we continue in session until we have transacted all the business of the session, which prevailed.

The order of the day—Report No. 5 of the Committee on Publishing Interests—was resumed.

The amendment of E. A. Yates, to strike out the words "manufacturing and" from the first item of Section 1, being under consideration, J. B. McFerrin and J. O. A. Clark spoke against it.

C. K. Marshall moved the previous question—the call was sustained—the question was taken, and the amendment was lost.

Item 1 of Section 1 was adopted.

Item 2 of Section 1 was read and adopted.

Section 2 was read, and J. W. Lewis moved to amend by inserting after the word "Agent" the words "who shall be a layman."

On motion of J. C. C. Winch, this amendment was laid on the table.

O. P. Fitzgerald moved to amend by substituting two weeks for one month.

This motion was laid on the table.

Section 2 was adopted.

Section 3 was read.

R. A. Young moved to amend the second item so as to require a trial balance sheet to be presented once a month, at least, by the Agent.

On motion of H. W. Foote, this amendment was laid on the table.

W. H. Potter moved to amend item 7 of Section 3 by adding at the close the following words from the Minority Report: "Provided that as soon as practicable the business of the House shall be reduced and confined to that of a publisher, and not of a manufacturer."

Bishop Paine then addressed the Conference, deprecating hasty action in opposition to the well-matured recommendations of a large and able committee.

The Chair ruled that the amendment of W. H. Potter was out of order.

M. Walton advocated the adoption of the section.

T. L. Mellen moved the previous question—the call was sustained—the question was put, and Section 3 was adopted.

Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, were read and adopted.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, the following item was adopted:

"The annual meeting of the Book Committee shall be held on the first Wednesday in the month of May, and monthly meetings at such time as the Committee shall appoint; and a majority of the five members who are to live near Nashville shall be necessary at monthly meetings, and a majority of the whole Committee necessary to an annual meeting, in order to transact business."

T. L. Mellen moved to adopt the report as a whole.

W. W. Duncan moved to amend by striking out from item 5, in

the statement of some of the causes of losses and depreciation, these words, "under the methods of business adopted and carried on by the Agent."

P. A. Peterson spoke in favor of the amendment.

T. L. Mellen spoke against it.

W. Mooney moved the previous question—the call was not sustained.

W. P. Harrison made an explanation.

The time was extended to allow A. H. Redford to make a statement.

Conference then adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop.

Wednesday Morning, May 22, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Wightman in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by A. P. Warterfield.

The minutes were read and approved.

Bishop McTyeire took the chair.

S. Regester, chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Reports Nos. 9, 10, and 11, of that committee, which were read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 9 ON EPISCOPACY.

The Committee on Episcopacy respectfully report that they have duly considered the paper referred to them signed by N. H. D. Wilson and L. S. Burkhead, proposing a change in the Discipline, Chap. III., Sec. 3, paragraph 6, page 69, so that any minister or member of the Church, who may be aggrieved; shall have the right of appeal to the College of Bishops, whose decision shall be final. The committee recommend non-concurrence.

S. REGESTER, Chairman.

S. S. BRYANT, Secretary.

REPORT NO. 10 ON EPISCOPACY.

The Committee on Episcopacy respectfully report that they have had under consideration a paper signed by W. H. Watkins and W. W. Bennett, proposing to alter the provisions of the Discipline, page 70, in relation to the publication of Episcopal decisions, and recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That the Bishops be requested to publish their decis-

ions on questions of law in the *Nashville Advocate*, for popular use, and afterward in the Appendix to Manual for permanence.

S. REGISTER, Chairman.

S. S. BRYANT, Secretary.

REPORT NO. 11 ON EPISCOPACY.

The Committee on Episcopacy respectfully report that a summary statement of receipts and disbursements of the Bishops' Fund for the past four years, by the Book Agent, Dr. A. H. Redford, was referred to them, which is herewith returned to the Conference, with the recommendation that it be adopted.

The committee farther recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the Bishops' Fund be required hereafter to submit to the General Conference an itemized statement of his receipts and disbursements for the preceding four years, showing clearly the amounts contributed by each Annual Conference.

S. REGISTER, Chairman.

S. S. BRYANT, Secretary.

S. Register, chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. 12 of that committee, which was read, as follows:

REPORT NO. 12 ON EPISCOPACY.

The Committee on Episcopacy respectfully report:

The annual salaries of the Bishops, including traveling expenses, are fixed at \$3,000 each, and the sum of \$1,500 annually for the widow and family of Bishop E. M. Marvin, deceased.

To meet these claims the following sums have been assessed to the several Annual Conferences, to wit: Baltimore, \$1,200; Virginia, \$1,500; Western Virginia, \$250; North Carolina, \$1,400; South Carolina, \$850; North Georgia, \$1,350; South Georgia, \$1,000; Florida, \$250; Alabama, \$1,000; North Alabama, \$800; Louisiana, \$800; Mississippi, \$850; North Mississippi, \$850; Memphis, \$1,200; Tennessee, \$1,500; Holston, \$800; Kentucky, \$800; Louisville, \$1,200; St. Louis, \$600; South-west Missouri, \$600; Missouri, \$1,000; Western, \$100; Little Rock, \$500; Arkansas, \$350; White River, \$300; Indian Mission, \$25; Texas, \$300; North Texas, \$450; North-west Texas, \$450; East Texas, \$250; West Texas, \$200; Columbia, \$50; Pacific, \$150; Los Angeles, \$25; Illinois, \$200; German Mission, \$100; Denver, \$50; Montana, \$25. Total, \$23,825.

S. REGISTER, Chairman.

W. G. Veal moved to lay it on the table—this motion did not prevail.

S. Rodgers moved to recommit.

A. West raised the point of order that the report of the committee on estimating Bishops' salaries is final. He cited the Discipline, Chap. IX., Sec. 3, on "Support of Bishops," as follows: "The Bishops shall be supported according to the following plan: 1. The allowance of the Bishops for salary and traveling expenses, and of the widows and orphan children of deceased Bishops, shall be estimated by the Committee on Episcopacy of the General Conference; and they shall divide the amount between the several Annual Conferences, according to the ability of the Conference."

The Chair, for obvious reasons, declined to decide the point of order, preferring that the decision be made by the Conference.

A. R. Winfield moved to sustain the point of order, and the motion prevailed by a rising vote—yeas, 120; nays, 104.

W. G. Veal gave notice that he would present a protest against this decision, to be spread on the Journal.

J. S. Martin, chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 9 of that committee, which was read, and laid on the table under the rule.

Also Report No. 10 of the same committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 10 ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy have considered a paper signed by P. H. Whisner and Samuel Rodgers, asking that the duties of the committee of examination of candidates for admission on trial be so enlarged as to include character and adaptation to the *itinerant work*, as well as the course of study, and they do recommend non-concurrence.

JOHN S. MARTIN, Chairman.

C. G. ANDREWS, Secretary.

J. B. McFerrin, chairman of the Committee on Publishing Interests, presented Report No. 7 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table.

Also Report No. 8 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 8 ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

Your committee, to whom was referred the report of the German Publishing Committee, to which were added two resolutions

adopted by the German Mission Conference during its late session, properly signed by the Secretary, viz.:

1. Recommending the election of J. B. A. Ahrens, D.D., editor, and Rev. J. A. G. Rabe, assistant editor, of the *Familienfreund* and *Kinderfreund*.

2. Recommending the election of a German Publishing Committee, composed of the following-named persons: J. B. A. Ahrens, F. Vordenbaumen, J. A. Schaper, John G. Krauter, and Jacob Bader.

Respectfully report concurrence.

J. B. McFERRIN, Chairman.

J. E. COBB, Secretary.

J. B. McFerrin, chairman of the Committee on Publishing Interests, presented Report No. 9 of that committee, which was read, and, after some discussion, on motion of W. Mooney, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 9 ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

To the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South:

Your Committee on Publishing Interests submit the following report upon the memorial in their paper of the Rev. R. Abbey, referred to them at an early day of the session. Your committee report the following facts, which have been elicited by their investigation, viz.:

1. That on the 20th of May, 1870, the General Conference adopted a resolution, by which "the Rev. A. L. P. Green, of Tennessee, and Isaac L. Johnson, Esq., of Washington, D. C.," were appointed a commission on behalf of the "Book Agents of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South," with full power and authority to employ counsel to present, prosecute the claims of, and receive the debt due, the Publishing House of said Church, at Nashville, by the Government of the United States, for rents, damages, printing material, and other property, pressed into the service of said Government during the years 1862 to 1865 inclusive, and endowed with full power to do all acts and things pertaining to said claim. (See Journal, page 305.)

2. That on the 11th day of July, 1872, the Book Committee of the "Publishing House of the M. E. Church, South," in regular meeting, of which said Rev. A. L. P. Green was President, appointed Dr. A. H. Redford in the place of Isaac Johnson, who had failed to act on said commission, and "authorized said Green

and Redford to employ the Rev. R. Abbey to superintend the prosecution of said claim against the United States Government." (See Minutes of the Book Committee.)

3. That in pursuance of said authority, said A. H. Redford wrote Dr. Abbey on the 12th of July, 1872, inquiring as to the terms upon which he would undertake to prosecute the claim, employ counsel, etc.

4. That on the 25th of July, 1872, said Redford proposed to pay the traveling expenses of said Abbey, and a commission upon what might be collected.

5. That the proposition as to payment of expenses was accepted, but that of commission declined, on the ground that it would give said Abbey an interest in the claim, and thus perhaps deprive the Church of the benefit of his testimony, which we deemed of importance to the Publishing House in the prosecution of the claim.

6. That the matter of compensation was agreed to be left with the Book Committee, with the assurance on the part of said Redford that they would do right, and that said Abbey would thus be relieved from any interest in the claim. (See letter of August 2, 1872.)

7. That by letter of said Redford, Agent of the Publishing House, of date August 22, 1872, said Abbey was assured that his employment was by request of Dr. Green, and that they wished him to proceed to Washington, confer with Dr. Johnson, employ counsel at his discretion, and have the claim pushed forward as early as practicable, and "exercise his discretion as to the manner of prosecuting and conducting said claim to its final collection, coöperating with said commission—Messrs. Green and Johnson and himself—as General Book Agents of the M. E. Church, South," etc.

8. That on the 30th day of September, 1872, said Redford, Agent, executed a power of attorney to said Abbey, investing him with full power in the premises.

9. That in pursuance of the authority vested in him, said Abbey entered fully upon his work and employed counsel upon terms deemed reasonable, and not involving any liability, except contingently, and has been engaged in prosecuting said claim, so far as your committee is advised, with unremitting zeal and diligence up to this time.

10. That in the prosecution of said claim he has incurred con-

siderable expense, a detailed statement of which has not been furnished us. This is estimated by Dr. Abbey at more than three thousand dollars over and above the amount paid him by the Publishing House, and has subjected him to no little inconvenience.

11. Your committee have received assurances that there is a reasonable ground to hope that the contest, which has been so long waged for the right in this case, will ultimate in success, but when that result is likely to be reached they have no means of determining. It is believed that the able report of the majority of the Committee of the Senate, in favor of the allowance of this claim, will be adopted whenever it is reached in the order of business.

In this state of the case, when this important matter may need special attention, it is not deemed advisable that the agency which was created under the circumstances named, and which received the approval and indorsement of the General Conference of 1874, in the resolution found on page 435 of the Journal, should be discontinued by any *direct* action of this body.

The relief which success in the prosecution of the claim would give the Publishing House is a matter of the highest moment, at this time of greatest need, and should not be imperiled by any hasty, impatient, or inconsiderate action.

Under this state of facts, your committee respectfully suggest that the best disposition to make of the whole matter at present would be:

1. To file the communication of Dr. Abbey, with the accompanying documents, among the records of the General Conference, for future reference.

2. To refer the whole matter of settlement of account for expenses incurred and compensation, and the continuance or discontinuance of the agency, to the Agent of the Publishing House and the Book Committee, which may be elected at this session, for adjustment.

Your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, viz.:

1. That the communication of Dr. Abbey and the accompanying documents be filed among the records of the General Conference.

2. That all matters connected with his account for expenses and compensation be referred to the Agent of the Publishing

House of the M. E. Church, South, and the Book Committee, which may be elected at this session of the General Conference, for settlement and adjustment.

3. That all matters relating to the continuance or discontinuance of the agency be referred, in like manner, to said Agent and Committee.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. B. McFERRIN, Chairman.

DAVID MORTON, Secretary *pro tem*.

Also Report No. 10 of that committee, which was read, and, on motion of C. K. Marshall, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 10 ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

Your committee, to whom was referred a resolution signed by Robert Paine, jr., J. B. McFerrin, and J. C. C. Winch, respecting the expediency of memorializing the Congress of the United States upon the subject of the claim in favor of our Publishing House, have considered the same, and have prepared the accompanying memorial, which they have instructed me to report to this General Conference for their adoption, after which the Secretary of this Conference shall furnish duly certified copies for each of the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives in Congress assembled.

J. B. McFERRIN, Chairman.

DAVID MORTON, Secretary *pro tem*.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled:

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, consisting of three hundred delegates, ministers and laymen, holding a quadrennial session of said Conference at Atlanta, Georgia, which commenced May 1, 1878, most respectfully memorialize your honorable body, and represent:

That the United States is justly indebted to the "Book Agents of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South," a corporation located and having its principal office in the city of Nashville, Tennessee, which is the property of the Church represented by this General Conference, and under its direction, in a large sum of money for valuable means and facilities used by the army of the United States in 1862 to 1865, which said claim has long since been prosecuted for adjustment and payment, and is now pending before Congress.

Your honorable bodies have already been informed that the

claimant is a religious Publishing House, a public charity, and is one of the largest and most promising in the United States. Its object is to supply the millions, more particularly in the South and West, of all classes and races, with a wholesome religious literature, adapted more especially to the wants of the young and the less-informed masses of the people.

We are assured that Congress is fully advised that the non-payment of this debt has largely contributed to the present serious embarrassment of the Publishing House, which at this time, we regret to say, amounts to almost financial ruin.

Your honorable bodies are likewise informed of the extraordinary number of petitions now before your committee, praying for the settlement and payment of this claim. We have been advised that these petitions form, as a whole, the most weighty memorial ever presented to the American Congress for private relief.

We are assured that all useful legal, moral, and equitable considerations in support of this claim have already been brought by counsel before Congress, and, we doubt not, have been duly considered; and when this body, as we now do, respectfully but most earnestly, request Congress to make a settlement and payment of this claim at the earliest convenience of the Government, we utter only the unanimous sentiments of millions of American citizens composing our Church societies and congregations, and masses of the people who look mainly to our Publishing House for their current supply of moral and religious literature.

Signed by order and on behalf of the General Conference, at Atlanta, Ga., May 22, 1878.

H. N. McTYRE, President.

T. O. SUMMERS, Secretary.

J. B. McFerrin, chairman of the Committee on Publishing Interests, presented Report No. 11 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 11 ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

Your committee have examined with care the forms for a Church Register, a Quarterly Conference Record, and a class-book, prepared by the Rev. Presley B. Smith, and referred to us, and respectfully report that we regard them as very meritorious works of their kind, and well suited to the purposes for which they were designed—the preservation in neat, compact form of a clear, concise and connected history of the charges which use

them. We would be glad to see them generally adopted throughout the Connection.

J. B. McFERRIN, Chairman.

DAVID MORTON, Secretary *pro tem*.

By common consent, on motion of D. C. Kelley, Report No. 5 of the Committee on Missions, laid on the table Tuesday, May 14, was taken up.

The report was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 5 ON MISSIONS.

Your committee having carefully considered the memorials referred to them in regard to Woman's Missionary Organizations, beg leave to submit the following report, to be inserted as Section II. in the present chapter on support of missions in the Discipline. To give freest scope to these spontaneous offerings of our women, the constitution has been made to embrace the fewest possible provisions, leaving to the Executive Association provided therein all the details of the work:

SECTION II. WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

In view of the fact that in most heathen countries women are only accessible to teachers of their own sex, the women of the M. E. Church, South, are hereby authorized to organize special missionary agencies under the following constitution:

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be called "The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South."

ART. II. The object of this Society shall be to enlist and unite the efforts of women in the work of sending the gospel to women in heathen lands, through the agency of female missionaries, teachers, and Bible-readers.

ART. III. The operations of this Society shall be conducted in connection with the Board of Missions, and subject to its advice and approval. All appropriations shall be made through the Treasurer of the Board to missions under the charge of the Board, for the support of female missionaries, teachers, and Bible-readers, employed under their sanction; nor shall any of the funds be devoted to other purposes without the consent of the Executive Association hereinafter provided for.

ART. IV. This Society shall be organized by the appointment of a General Executive Association and Conference Societies—said General Executive Association to be constituted by appointment of the Bishops and Missionary Secretaries, in the first instance, and thereafter as by-laws and regulations to be adopted

by the Association shall provide; and Conference Societies to be constituted in accordance with provisions of such by-laws and regulations.

ART. V. The funds of the Society shall in all cases be derived from private efforts, and in no case from public collections during regular Church-service.

D. C. Kelley gave notice that a meeting of women, visitors and residents, will be held in the First Church, Atlanta, to-morrow at 10 o'clock, to organize under the constitution.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 19 of that committee, which was read.

W. G. Veal moved the following substitute for the third item:

Amend the Discipline in regard to Financial Board, item 1, Chapter IX., Section 5, page 160. Be changed by striking out "close of annual session," and inserting "second day of the annual session."

This substitute did not prevail.

The report was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 19 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal submit Report No. 19:

1. They have had under consideration a paper signed J. H. Dye and A. R. Winfield, and report that the subject-matter of this paper has been already reported on by your committee, and it needs no farther notice.

2. We recommend non-concurrence in the memorial of the Memphis Conference, requiring the Presiding Elder to furnish a list of the members of the District Conference.

3. Your committee recommend that you do not concur in a paper signed A. M. Chrietzberg and O. A. Darby, recommending a change in the Discipline touching the Joint Board of Finance.

4. They also recommend non-concurrence in the paper of W. S. Johnson and H. P. Walker, touching the record of the Joint Board of Finance.

5. No action is necessary on the paper of C. F. Harvey and J. J. Roberts, as the subject-matter has already been reported on by your committee.

6. We recommend non-concurrence in the paper of T. S. Wade and S. Black, which proposes to strike out Ans. 3, Ques. 1, Sec. 12, Chap. III., page 98, of the Discipline.

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

J. E. Evans, chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 20 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table, to be printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate*, as follows:

REPORT NO. 20 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to submit Report No. 20:

They have had under consideration the subject of uniform statistics referred to them, and submit for your adoption the following table of statistics:

1. Number of local preachers;
2. Number of members;
3. Number of infants baptized;
4. Number of adults baptized;
5. Number of deaths;
6. Number of Sunday-schools;
7. Number of officers and teachers;
8. Number of scholars;
9. Number of volumes in library;
10. Number of church-edifices;
11. Value of church-edifices;
12. Number of parsonages;
13. Value of parsonages;
14. Value of other Church-property;
15. Money expended for salaries of ministers;
16. Money expended for Sunday-schools;
17. Money expended on churches and parsonages;
18. Amount raised in Sunday-schools for missions;
19. Amount raised in churches for missions;
20. Amount raised for Conference claimants;
21. Amount raised for Bishops;
22. Amount raised for other benevolent objects;
23. Amount raised for American Bible Society.

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

C. K. Marshall, chairman of the Committee on Sunday-schools, presented Report No. 7 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 7 ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-school Committee beg leave to report that they have carefully considered the resolution signed by J. B. Streater and J. D. Cameron, "on the propriety of adopting a complete course of study for the pupils of our Sunday-schools," and, in view of the ample provision for every age and class, which is deemed sufficient for the present, do not recommend its adoption.

They have also considered the resolution signed by R. Pollard and T. W. Mason, on appropriating more or less of the proceeds of sales of Sunday-school books and papers, for cheapening and rendering them more efficient. Cannot at present recommend the

adoption of the same, but regard it as a matter for careful investigation at a future and more propitious period.

Respectfully submitted.

C. K. MARSHALL, Chairman.

P. GALLAGHER, Secretary.

Also Report No. 8 of that committee, which was received and laid on the table, without reading, to be printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate*, as follows:

REPORT NO. 8 ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The committee to whom were referred the memorials and other papers on the Sunday-school interests beg leave to report that they have carefully considered the matters submitted to them, and, after prayerful and serious deliberation, have agreed upon and returned to your body several important changes, the adoption of which we have recommended, while others laid before us were deemed to have been amply provided for in the Discipline, and have so reported to your body.

In closing our labors, we feel that it is due to the Sunday-school interests, and to the Church at large, that in our final report we should offer some views on matters of general moment to the cause.

Devoutly grateful to the great Head of the Church for the remarkable success hitherto attending our Sunday-school department of Christian instruction, we feel that we cannot pause for one hour in the blessed work so eminently owned and honored by him.

Respecting the true value and growing importance of the institution, we cannot better express our views than in the following eloquent and forcible language employed by our beloved Bishops in their address before this body. They said:

"Our Sunday-school department has fully kept pace with the progress of the Church in every other direction, if it has not surpassed it in all others. Its indispensable connection with the Church growth in the present age has been thoroughly demonstrated in the past four years. It has replenished our membership with its largest numbers and its best materials, and has assumed proportion prophetic of yet grander results.

"The last General Conference settled, by law, a principle of prime importance when it defined the relation of Sunday-schools to the pastorate, by conferring upon it the right of nominating superintendents.

“Our Sunday-school literature has blossomed into great beauty and perfection, equal to the most advanced necessities of the cause, and ought, without exception, to be introduced into all our schools. Its new phase, happily inaugurated by Dr. Haygood, has been successfully developed and improved by Dr. Cunningham, both in matter and form. The adoption of uniform lessons, accompanied with our own interpretations, is at the same time an element of Protestant catholicity and denominational strength. The inculcation of our doctrinal views, by the constant use of our catechisms, remains to complete our system of Sabbath-school instruction.

“It is of sufficient importance to justify a special enactment on the subject by the General Conference.”

Fully concurring with those views concerning the excellence of catechetical instruction from our own standard works, we respectfully urge the universal adoption and constant use of our own serial catechisms as the best extant. And while we fully approve of the use of the *Uniform Lessons*, we repeat the words of the Episcopal Address, that they should be *accompanied with our own interpretations* in all cases.

Such has been the rapid and encouraging improvement in our Sabbath-school literature and standards of doctrinal exposition that we most heartily congratulate this General Conference, and the Sabbath-school workers at large, on the complete and unequalled appliances and facilities we now possess. The monthly *Magazine* has now attained an eminence that leaves nothing to be desired, save that, as Sunday-schools grow by the progress of scriptural knowledge and religious culture, the necessities and tastes of the current age may find its instructive columns still enriched with the freshest contributions of the consecrated minds and hearts of the friends of the young.

And what we say of the *Magazine* may, to a considerable extent, be said of the other monthly publications. While we feel satisfied that the able and efficient editor will not permit any of them to fall behind other and kindred papers, if they may not really excel them all, and if superseded in his editorial task, an event we should deplore, we trust that these publications—now so essential to our Sunday-school interests—may continue to rise in the esteem and attachment of our Sunday-schools, and shed their refining and life-breathing influences over the hearts of their unborn successors for ages to come.

Such books, magazines, and papers, as now teem from the press, must lay the safe foundation for a solid and symmetrical growth of education and Christian improvement. The Sabbath-school does not aim at a scientific or commercial education, but the taste and desire of learning are cherished there, and the young man who attentively inquires into the import of the words, "The just *shall* live by faith," will lose no opportunity of fanning the dust out of the problems of scientific and secular knowledge.

For the study of God and his holy word possesses an inspiring and quickening power over the intellect unrivaled by any other motive.

"The entrance of thy word giveth light," was uttered to reveal the illuminating power of divine truth over the affections, over the conscience, over the understanding, over the will, over the fullness and completeness of the entire man. Hence, to the youth's perplexed and solicitous inquiry, "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way," the answer comes, "By taking heed thereto according to thy word." It cleanses his way by cleansing his heart. It cleanses his intellect by expelling low and vulgar estimates of man, and woman, and life. It cleanses his way by sweeping from his path the dust, the smoke, the clouds, that must otherwise hold the true way in deep eclipse. It cleanses his way by giving power to surmount obstacles, and triumph in the hour of disaster, through the divine strength of the great Redeemer.

In the light of God's word we find a value set upon the individual child—the solitary Sunday-school pupil—for which the universe has neither a currency to match nor a power of enumeration to state; and because of this, Christendom has awakened to the hitherto little appreciated magnitude of this institution, and its best men, like the wise men of the East, have seen its star, and are flocking to the lowly bed of its mighty attraction with gifts, gold, frankincense, and myrrh, profoundly penetrated with the belief that the triumphs of the millennium are rocked in the cradle of the Sunday-school. Nor can the significance and blessedness of this Christ-teaching school be fully estimated or conceived. In moral grandeur it stands alone. In its power to command the tender care, loving sympathy, and Christian affection of the gentle, the wise, and the good, it has no competitor.

Happily we may say it has well-nigh girdled the world. It is the right-arm of our foreign missionaries. And through all the

gloomy dens of idolatry, superstition, and sin, the voice of Jesus is heard through the Sunday-school, calling the little children, as of old, to come unto him.

Your returned messengers and missionaries from "around the world" have told you here that only in Christian lands are children honored, prized, and loved, especially female children. They have seen the infants of dark heathen countries sacrificed to the crocodiles, or given as a prey to the birds of the air. But in those heathen lands the teachings of the Sunday-schools are changing the whole type of civilization and religion, while the spectral horrors of pagan rites and superstitions are fleeing rapidly before the rising star of the "Babe of Bethlehem."

Nor can we doubt that in coming years the divine Book and the divine Man, each being a counterpart of the other, and either inexplicable without the other, will more and more command the attention, daily solicitude, investigation, and study of the world. For the Holy Book can no more be exhausted than the fountains that feed the fires of the sun, and the Sunday-school pupil stands on the same plane. The least one of them, in his little frock, with his first lesson, is now, and ever will be, an unsolved mystery—a deep, unfathomed by the sounding-line of any created being. Nay, the loftiest conception of the imagination, in its efforts to measure the Supreme One, has not risen high enough to reach the majestic stature of that tiny soul. How blest and Christ-like the task of those who engage in the work of the salvation of such a rising generation!

The work already accomplished is the glad and sure prophecy of future success. The great majority of Sunday-school pupils now stand in scriptural knowledge where parents and teachers of the last generation stood, and soon will attain to the place where their teachers now stand. Then the institution will unite adults with children, and parents, teachers, and pupils, studying together in the college of the Church, will realize the consummation of the labors and prayers of its countless friends. In order to succeed, we must make the children of the Church realize the fact that their welfare and salvation are the principal consideration with the followers of Christ. From their ranks the Church is to reap her grandest harvests, and consequently the ablest and most efficient instrumentality should be utilized in their Christian training.

But let parents take heed lest they commit the error of allow-

ing the Sunday-school to take the place of home love, home care, and home culture. Nothing on earth is equal to the love of a true mother. Her influence must ever be held supreme. She can form the heart, and mold the character, as no one else can. And it will be a sad day for a mother when her precious children pass her by, and seek in preference the teaching, example, and prayers of strangers.

Better have no Sunday-school than that parents should neglect the solemn obligations to train up their own children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. And yet there are many parents without spiritual solicitude, religious motives, or faith in God, and for their offspring we must care, and watch, and pray, and lead them to Christ.

The Sunday-school aims to lay the foundation of a natural and rational development of the entire capabilities of the pupil. In no other way can the character be formed and maintained. The mind and heart must rise and grow and move together, like the normal movement of a locomotive along its normal twin rails. Enlighten the understanding, but refine and elevate the affections. Let intellect and sensibilities go hand in hand. God hath joined the psyche and the pneuma together, and the union should never be disregarded. Just now the enemies of the Church aim at the dissolution of this union. They are trying to adjust the powers of our dual natures so as to run, if possible, on our rail. Here, it may be, one class accepts the mere intellect alone, while there another relies on the emotional functions alone.

Men given to moral extravagances are deemed fanatics. But are they not as truly fanatics whose sole endeavor is to ignore the moral functions of our natures, and run the car of manhood upon the single rail of rationalism?

Hence a vast portion of the clamor about education is purely fanatical. It simply means to store the memory, stimulate the mathematical faculties, and fill the mental grasp with appropriate wealth for the enrichment of the intellect alone.

In the end the moral and spiritual functions, having been neglected, depressed, and despised, your half-educated pupil rises on the horizon of society—an intellectual Comanche, with a breech-loading endless repeater on his shoulder, regarding men as mere animals of godless origin, irresponsible life, and brutish destiny.

The early impressions of truth, and the converting power of divine grace, have thus far proved a bulwark of defense to thou-

sands of our people, who learned to love the gospel in the Sunday-school, and who otherwise might have been ruined by such ill-directed efforts to cultivate the mind.

This institution is a monument of divine beneficence. It has accomplished a work the most fervid imagination could not have anticipated. Indeed, it may be safely said that no improvement in the arts, no progress in the sciences, no discovery in the vast field of adventure, no invention in the realms of mechanism and philosophy, have been so remarkable, or have wrought half so great a change in the tone and tendencies of our age, the triumphs of truth, the elevation of the social relations, and the preservation and improvement of the rising generation, as has the Sunday-school.

It has brought childhood to the front. Childhood, that for ages seems to have been regarded as an impracticable and valueless thing, except for the mere errands and drudgeries, or the "scape-goat" of parental passion, on the one hand, or, on the other, as a rare and beautiful toy, to amuse or divert young parents, was in no signal manner regarded as possessing any great innate dignity or worth. Young children were in the way. Opulent parents relegated them to the watchful care of teachers and nurses, often little superior to those fabled of Romulus and Remus, while the poorer classes sent their little ones to the streets and slums of idleness and mischief, or occasionally to some extemporized school-master, to whom the profound mystery of the "three suggestive R's" had never been fully disclosed.

But the idea that the child was to be taught the love of God, and grow up from tender years a Christian, and be a useful member of the Church, would have shocked the sense of propriety in all Christendom.

The very clergy of the past, with rare exceptions, took but little notice of children. Cold, formal catechetical lessons were sometimes attended to, but in the same spirit, and with no aim at higher results, as a rule, than when the multiplication-table and the history of the country were subjects of study. The heart of the modern Church has been renovated, and childhood has been taken into its embrace, its sympathies, and yearning love.

While the old stilted style of preaching to those of ripe and advanced years alone has yielded, in some degree, to the demands of the "lambs of the flock" for their share of pulpit instructions, is not something more due to the children from the pulpit? Can

sermons be more profitably addressed to the old and comparatively indifferent hearers of a large congregation? Must ninety per cent. of all pulpit teachings be such that the young can take little or no interest in them? We think Mr. Spurgeon eminently happy in a recent hint on the "star-high style" of many ministers when he said that "from a want of fitness in the food and the high places in which it was deposited, it would naturally be inferred that the preacher supposed when the Saviour said, 'Feed my lambs,' he meant 'Feed my camelopards.'" An evil of fearful significance.

Hence sermons are too often regarded as fugitive songs, to be heard and forgotten, whose *amen*, at one and the same time, puts them under the lethean sod, and crystallized into a head-stone and an obituary.

In this connection we congratulate our people on the increase in the character and zeal of the great body of our Sunday-school teachers. This is a very marked feature of the times. We realize the purport of the prophecy that "kings shall become nursing fathers, and their queens nursing mothers," in Zion.

Men and women of the highest positions, social and official, as well as the thousands of our excellent young people, are constantly engaged in this great work, and regarded as the noblest in which they so engage.

And yet it matters little who teaches, or what proficiency is made in the love of the Scriptures, if the primary object of teaching be lost sight of.

The great aim is not mere catechetical instruction, however well in itself, but to lead childhood to Jesus—to fill their young hearts with the love of the Crucified One—to plant in their tender bosoms the seeds of God's word, that may grow up to eternal life. It is a matter of small importance that a child should know who was the first man—who the oldest man—who was cradled on the wavelets of the Nile; but it may prove a matter of eternal moment to him for a teacher, without book or lesson, to pour into his tender and receptive soul the fragrance of the flower that sprung up at the foot of the bleeding cross. Let the Sunday-school unite with the pastors in lovingly leading the children, "the lambs of the flock," to Jesus the great Shepherd, and the world will soon realize the change, as when the sun bursts from the dark and frozen sepulcher of December, and drags in its train the clustering bounties that give life to the world.

Your committee have been gratified that measures have been adopted for the increase of the efficiency of our Sunday-school system, by the arrangement for a committee to assist and sustain the editor of our Sunday-school literature, and to inaugurate measures for its wider dissemination.

You have also suggested the importance of organizing missionary societies in all our schools, a measure fraught with the most excellent results, not merely, or perhaps chiefly, to the missions, but also to the formation of the character of the pupil, who will be early taught that it is more blessed to give than to receive, to do good than to receive good. Besides, you have urged upon parents and teachers the indispensableness of the attention of their children upon the services of the sanctuary and the preaching of God's word. Better that a child do not go to Sunday-school after he is ten years old than that he should, through the Sunday-school, be led to the neglect of the public services and worship of God.

May this General Conference date a new departure in the onward movement of this precious institution! Let the Sunday-school workers, parents and pupils, take fresh courage, and resolve upon still greater achievements. The world is before them. Millions of children remain to be gathered into Sunday-schools, and taught the unknown wonders of the Redeemer's cross.

Foreign lands,

Where every prospect pleases,
And only man is vile,

call with Macedonian persuasiveness to the young children of our Church to help them; and the call will be responded to, and pagan, heathen, and Mohammedan empires be made glad for the coming of the Sunday-school evangel.

Then the music of the Sabbath-bells, on all the hills and plains, through all the hamlets and cities, over all the rivers and seas of distant lands, shall chime melodiously with the music of millions of pattering little feet hurrying joyfully to the meeting of the Sunday-school, and thus help in pushing the victories of the cross around the world,

Till all our ransomed nature,
The Lamb for sinners slain,
Redeemer, King, Creator,
In bliss returns to reign.

C. K. MARSHALL, Chairman.

P. GALLAGHER, Secretary.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 17 of that committee, which was read, and laid on the table to be printed.

Bishop Pierce presented Report No. 3 of the Committee on Appeals, which was read, as follows:

REPORT NO. 3 ON APPEALS.

ATLANTA, GA., May 21, 1878.

Appeal of Samuel J. Catlin, elder, Denver Conference, suspended. Decision of the Denver Conference reversed.

G. F. PIERCE, President.

A. G. HAYGOOD, Secretary.

A. M. Shipp, chairman of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, presented Reports Nos. 2 and 3 of that committee, which were read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 2 ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Fraternal Correspondence beg leave to report the following letter in response to the Address of the British Conference, viz.:

To the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of Great Britain.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—Your Address to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has given us great satisfaction. We rejoice in the knowledge of the constantly growing numbers in both the ministry and membership of your Societies; of your enlarged views and liberal plans for the education of your people, and the training of an earnest and enlightened ministry for home and foreign spheres of labor; of your continued zeal and activity in the great cause of missions, and in all enterprises for the advancement of Christ's kingdom in the world; and particularly of the good success that has followed all your labors. Thanks be unto God, who maketh manifest the savor of his knowledge by you in every place! For this cause do we joy and rejoice with you.

The Christian courtesy and kindness shown by you to the late Bishop Marvin and the Rev. E. R. Hendrix, our accredited representatives to your Conference, deeply affected their own minds, and find grateful recognition by our General Conference, which represents a total membership of about seven hundred and seventy-five thousand souls. Of our own affairs, we need not now write particularly, since our representatives were so recently

enabled to give you full and detailed information. We hold with you the same standards of doctrinal truths; we are engaged with you in the like efforts to bring our fellow-men into saving contact with the truth as it is in Jesus; and we share with you the same solicitude of mind to guard our people against the insidious approaches of a cunning infidelity and a dangerous sacerdotalism. We have diligently studied all your plans of operation, and caught inspiration from your examples, especially in the important departments of educational and missionary enterprise. Our schools, and colleges, and universities, are well distributed through our entire territory, and are meeting in good degree the wants of our people. The subject of higher education is at this time receiving special attention at our hands, and institutions modeled after yours, for securing and perpetuating to our Church an enlightened and earnest ministry, are coming into successful use among us. Already from such institutions have gone forth the young and zealous missionary to toil in the distant field of China, in Brazil, in Mexico, among the Germans in Texas, and the native Indians of the West. A delegate from China represents in this General Conference the interests of that far-off land.

Our General Conference, at its present session, has taken the necessary steps to a due celebration of the centennial of the organization of our Church in America, in December, 1884, and has also adopted preliminary measures to secure the assembling of an Ecumenical Council of Methodism, in which, it is hoped, all branches of the great Methodist family will seek representation, and from which it is confidently expected that the greatest good will result to every part of the general Connection.

We most cordially reciprocate the fraternal greetings of your Address, and hereby express the great satisfaction and joy it will always give us, at future sessions of our General Conference, to interchange communications with you, by representatives or otherwise, as may be most convenient for you. We can never forget the almost dying-words of Mr. Wesley, longing for such fraternal interchanges, and enforcing the perpetual spiritual unity of Methodism. "We want some of you," said he to Ezekiel Cooper, February 1, 1791, "to give us a connected relation of what our Lord has been doing in America from the time that Richard Boardman accepted the invitation and left his country to serve you. See that you never give place to one thought of separating from your brethren in Europe. Lose no opportunity

of declaring to all men that the Methodists are one people in all the world, and that it is their full determination so to continue,

Though mountains rise and oceans roll
To sever us in vain."

Now, may the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever. Amen!

A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

REPORT NO. 3 ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The committee recommended for adoption by the Conference the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the College of Bishops be authorized and requested to appoint a delegation, consisting of one minister and one layman, to bear the fraternal greetings of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to the Methodist Church of Canada.

A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

P. Whitehead, chairman of the Committee on the Ecumenical Conference, stated that the committee had accomplished all its duties, and asked to be discharged. The request was granted.

A. G. Stitt, lay delegate from Kentucky Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence on account of official duties.

The unfinished business of yesterday—being the action on Report No. 5 on Publishing Interests, including the motion of W. W. Duncan, to amend by striking out the last clause of item 5, respecting some of the causes of losses and depreciation of the Publishing House—was resumed.

W. W. Duncan was allowed to withdraw his amendment.

The question being on the adoption of the report as a whole, A. H. Redford addressed the Chair.

On motion of J. B. McFerrin, A. H. Redford was allowed to speak without regard to the rule of limitation as to time.

Pending his speech, the order of the day arrived, being the reception of Fraternal Messengers from the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

A. H. Colquitt, chairman of the Committee on Introductions, presented the Rev. W. J. Gaines and the Rev. W. D. Johnson to the Chair (Bishop McTyeire), who introduced them to his col-

leagues of the Episcopal College, and then to the Conference, which received the Fraternal Messengers standing.

The following telegraphic message from Bishop Campbell was presented and read, viz.:

"PHILADELPHIA, PA., May 15, 1878.

"To Rev. W. J. Gaines, 14 Collins street:

"You and W. D. Johnson are appointed by the Bishops to attend the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South, in session at Atlanta. Inform Johnson. Will send letter of instructions.

"J. P. CAMPBELL."

The Chair then presented the Rev. W. J. Gaines, who delivered an eloquent address, and was followed by his colleague, the Rev. W. D. Johnson, in a similar vein of enthusiastic fraternal sentiment. The speeches were frequently interrupted by hearty responses.

The Conference then arose spontaneously, and sung,

When that illustrious day shall rise, etc.

The Chair (Bishop McTyeire) then addressed the Fraternal Messengers in his happiest style, expressing the heartiest congratulations on the kindly relations subsisting between the two Connections. The Bishop made a pleasant allusion to the Colored M. E. Church in America, and expressed an earnest desire for the unification of all the colored Methodist organizations.

The Conference then adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop, to meet this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

Wednesday Afternoon, May 22, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

E. A. Yates conducted divine service.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and confirmed.

Bishop Keener took the chair.

The Chair called up the question on which the Conference adjourned this morning.

A. H. Redford, having the floor, spoke at length on his relation to the Publishing House.

J. B. McFerrin followed in some explanatory remarks.

W. H. Potter moved to amend the third item in the section on relief by adding after the first sentence these words: "After the settlement with the Agent of the Publishing House by the Book Committee, herein provided for, has been made, and after the sale of all the property of the Publishing House, except the copy-

rights and stereotype-plates, has been effected, and the proceeds paid to the creditors, as herein provided for, and the remainder of the debt of the Publishing House definitely ascertained, and not before, and then the appeal be continually made until the whole debt is paid."

On motion of W. L. Nugent, the amendment was laid on the table.

D. G. Godwin called for the previous question—the call was sustained—the question was put, and Report No. 5 of the Committee on Publishing Interests was adopted.

The time was extended to allow J. B. McFerrin to make an explanation, and the Secretary to present the following communication from the Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian General Assembly, in session at Knoxville:

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PRESBYTERIAN GENERAL
ASSEMBLY.

KNOXVILLE, May 21, 1878.

To the Secretary of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in session at Atlanta:

It becomes my pleasing duty to transmit, through you, to the Conference of which you are an officer, the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted by the General Assembly:

"*Resolved*, That this General Assembly acknowledge the reception of the Christian salutations of the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South, now in session at Atlanta, Ga., and, through our Stated Clerk, send to them the greeting, Love, and good wishes for harmony in their sessions, and prosperity in all their Church enterprises."

Attest:

JOSEPH R. WILSON,

Stated Clerk of Gen. Assembly of Presbyterian Church in U. S.

[We insert the following response of the Cumberland Presbyterian Assembly, though it was not received by the Secretary till after the General Conference had closed its session:]

LEBANON, May 23, 1878.

Rev. Thos. O. Summers, D.D., Secretary General Conference, etc., Atlanta, Ga.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER:—The General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, in session at this place, to-day adopted unanimously the report of the Committee on Correspondence, of which the following is an extract, viz.:

"To the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South, now in session in Atlanta, Ga., greeting:

"The General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

in session at Lebanon, Tenn., hereby acknowledges the receipt of your fraternal salutation; and we heartily reciprocate your expressions of Christian love, praying that the Divine Spirit may render effective what you have already done, in the name of our common Master, and that henceforth he may guide you in all your work."

A true copy:

JOHN FRIZZELL, Stated Clerk.

Conference adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Bishop.

Thursday Morning, May 23, 1878.

Conference met at the stated hour, Bishop Keener in the chair.

B. H. Spencer conducted divine service.

The minutes were read and approved.

Bishop Paine took the chair.

W. W. Jones and others moved that 10 o'clock this morning be the order of the day to elect General Conference officers. This motion was laid on the table.

On motion of J. C. C. Winch, the election of General Conference officers was made the order of the day for this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

J. H. Brunner was granted leave of absence, he having been called to perform the obsequies of the late Rev. C. Long, who died at Athens, Tenn., May 22.

Leave of absence was granted to P. A. Mitchell, on account of the illness of his wife.

On motion of John Hogan, speeches hereafter are to be limited to five minutes, unless the time be extended by a vote of the Conference.

Report No. 3 on Boundaries was taken up.

N. H. Lee moved to amend the first item by adding the words, "except the town of Jeffersonville."

On motion of F. M. Kennedy, the item and amendment were laid on the table.

The item is as follows:

Your committee, to whom was referred the memorial from the Illinois Annual Conference, and the memorial from the Gosport District Conference, Illinois Annual Conference, have had them under careful consideration, and recommend the formation of an Indiana Annual Conference, which shall embrace the State of Indiana.

The report, as amended, is as follows:

REPORT NO. 3 ON BOUNDARIES.

We recommend that Otter Creek appointment, in the Blue Sulphur Circuit, Baltimore Conference, be transferred to the Western Virginia Conference, and that the following be inserted in the Discipline on page 308, after Lewisburg District: "except Otter Creek appointment."

The resolution signed by P. A. Mitchell and Frank Richardson, concerning the boundary line of the Holston Conference, has been considered, and we recommend the striking out of the Discipline, on page 310, "thence north with said State line to Island Creek, and with said Creek and the Tennessee River to the State line of Tennessee," and inserting, "thence with said State line to where the Alabama State line crosses the Tennessee River."

W. S. BLACK, Chairman.

S. X. HALL, Secretary.

The following resolution was then presented, read, and adopted:

Whereas, That portion of the Illinois Conference now included in the State of Indiana has greatly prospered, and is constantly enlarging, having increased in four years from 280 to 1,260 members; therefore,

Resolved, That the Illinois Conference be, and they are hereby, authorized by a vote of the majority of the members, and with the consent of the Bishop presiding, to divide within the next four years, so as to form that portion now in Indiana into a separate Conference, to be called the Indiana Conference of the M. E. Church, South.

COLIN MURCHISON,
B. R. HESTER.

Report No. 2 on Missions was called up, read, and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 2 ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions direct me to report favorably on the memorial from the West Texas Conference, in relation to erecting the Mexican Border Mission District into a separate Annual Conference, and to submit for your consideration and action the accompanying resolution, touching the subject-matter referred to in said memorial:

Resolved, by the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South, assembled at Atlanta, That the Bishops, in conjunction with the Board of Foreign Missions, be, and they are hereby, authorized

and empowered to organize and erect the Mexican Border District, now belonging to the West Texas Conference, into a separate Annual Conference, to be called the Rio Grande Mexican Mission Conference, when, in their discretion, the same can be done with advantage to the Church and the parties immediately to be affected.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

Atlanta, May 7, 1878.

Report No. 2 on Finance, with the Minority Report, was called up.

A motion was made to adopt the Majority Report.

T. M. Finney moved as a substitute the Minority Report, which was adopted.

The reports are as follows:

REPORT NO. 2 ON FINANCE.

Your committee have had under consideration the resolution of Hannibal District Conference, within the bounds of the Missouri Conference, and other memorials and resolutions on the same subject, asking the passage of a law that shall be uniform in its action throughout all the Churches, and that shall impose an obligation upon each member of every particular charge to contribute to the support of the ministry, and thereby settle the method of raising funds for the support of the preachers in the itinerancy, and have directed me to report that, by a large majority, the committee recommend non-concurrence in the matter of said resolutions, etc., as they are of the opinion that Chap. IX., Sec. 1, items 1, 2, 3, and 4, on pages 155, 156, of the Discipline, "on the support of preachers on circuits and stations," if properly carried into effect, contains all the disciplinary provisions on the subject which are necessary or judicious.

ROBERT A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

MINORITY REPORT NO. 2 ON FINANCE.

On the memorial of the Hannibal District Conference, referred to the Committee on Finance, requesting that a method of raising money for the support of the preachers on circuits and stations shall be more clearly defined and settled, and which shall be made uniform throughout all the Churches, the undersigned, a minority of the committee, report concurrence with the memorial, and recommend changes in the Discipline in order thereto, as follows:

In Chap. IV., Sec. 1, item 3, page 155, second line from the bot-

tom of page, substitute "may" for "shall," and add to the whole item the following words: "Unless otherwise ordered by the Church Conference, the stewards shall adopt the plan of assessment with consent, as provided in item next following," so that the whole item shall read as follows: "3. The stewards shall report to each Church-meeting the whole amount to be raised, and that part of it which each congregation is expected to pay. The Church Conference may adopt its own method of raising the money. Unless otherwise ordered by the Church Conference, the stewards shall adopt the plan of assessment with consent, as provided in item next following."

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| T. M. FINNEY, | TH. BRANCH, |
| J. F. MEDLEY, | JOHN B. FANT, |
| J. W. GAUT, | T. M. MERIWETHER, |
| ROBERT BABINGTON, | D. THOMAS, |
| J. J. ROBERTS. | |

Report No. 3 on Finance was taken up and read.

A. P. Warterfield and H. A. C. Walker moved the following amendment, which was not adopted:

Item 2. The apportionment for the salary of the Presiding Elder shall in all cases be collected by the circuit or station stewards, separately from that of the pastor, and in no case shall he divide with the pastor.

The report was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 3 ON FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance have considered a resolution signed by A. P. Warterfield and H. A. C. Walker, referred to them by this Conference, on "support of Presiding Elders," and "on mode of collecting Presiding Elders' salaries," proposing to amend Chap. IX., Sec. 2, item 2, of the Discipline, and have unanimously recommended a report of non-concurrence in said resolution.

R. A. Young, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

Sam Hawkins, reserve lay delegate from Memphis Conference, takes the place of A. R. Boone.

Report No. 7 on Finance, with the Minority Report, was taken up—both reports were read, as follows:

REPORT NO. 7 ON FINANCE.

Your Finance Committee have considered a resolution signed by J. B. McGehee, T. M. Meriwether, J. M. Matthews, and R. W

Lovitt, respecting the too prevalent practice of raising money for Church purposes by fairs, festivals, excursions, suppers, theatrical performances, etc., and have directed a report that the subject-matter of said resolution has been fully met by the Pastoral Address of the Bishops, and by the Discipline, and they therefore respectfully ask that they be discharged from farther consideration of the same.

R. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

MINORITY REPORT NO. 7 ON FINANCE.

A minority of your Committee on Finance, being unable to agree with the Report of the Majority of said committee, as regards the matters contained in said report, beg leave to submit the following:

1. No one can appreciate more highly than we do the salutary recommendations contained in the Pastoral Address of our revered Bishops, but we submit that the matters therein contained are in no wise, and can in no wise become, the law of the Church, except by legislative action thereon by this General Conference.

2. We are not aware of any part of our Discipline which speaks either deprecatingly or approvingly, *with authority*, on these subjects, or on kindred evils now affecting those important questions in the Churches.

And in view of these facts, we respectfully recommend the passage by the Conference of the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this General Conference, it is inexpedient and impolitic that money for Church purposes should be raised by fairs, festivals, excursions, suppers, theatrical performances, drawings, lotteries, or by chance, in any manner whatsoever.

JOHN S. GAUNT,

J. C. C. WINCH.

J. C. C. Winch moved to substitute the Minority Report.

E. Hamil moved to lay the substitute on the table—this motion did not prevail—yeas 93, nays 93.

On motion of J. S. Martin, the substitute was indefinitely postponed.

The adoption of the Majority Report was moved.

P. A. Peterson moved the following substitute for the report—a motion to lay it on the table did not prevail:

Resolved, That our pastors are expected and directed to use their influence and authority to discourage all doubtful methods

of receiving money for Church purposes, and that we exhort our people to abstain from all practices in this connection which cannot be pursued in the name of the Lord Jesus.

T. M. Meriwether called for the previous question—the call was sustained—the question was put, and the substitute of P. A. Peterson was adopted.

Report No. 8 on Finance was taken up, read, and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 8 ON FINANCE.

Your Finance Committee, to whom was referred a resolution of D. H. Conally and R. W. Thompson, making a change in Chapter IX., Section 5, paragraph 2, page 161, of the Discipline, fourth line from top of page, by inserting after the word chairman the word "treasurer," so that it shall hereafter read, "they shall elect their own chairman, treasurer, and secretary," etc., having duly considered the same, have directed me to report that they recommend that this Conference do concur therewith.

R. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

Report No. 2 on Education was taken up, read, and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 2 ON EDUCATION.

Your committee, to whom was referred a paper signed by W. H. N. Magruder and J. J. Wheat, in regard to certain duties of preachers in charge of circuits, stations, and missions, recommend the insertion of the following paragraph in the Discipline, as Answer 16, Section 4, page 78:

16. To urge upon parents the importance of educating their children, advising them to patronize, as far as practicable, those institutions of learning under the care of our Church.

Respectfully submitted.

W. P. HARRISON, Chairman.

Report No. 1 on Education was taken up and read.

E. E. Wiley moved to recommit the report—a motion to lay that motion on the table did not prevail.

The report was recommitted, on motion of W. Murrah, with instructions to the committee to cancel every thing in the report of a political character, and to report at their earliest convenience.

Report No. 4 on Revisal, laid on the table May 9, acted on in part May 14, was taken up and adopted as a whole—except items 3, 4, which were not adopted. (See pages 271-273.)

Report No. 6 on Revisal was taken up.

Item 1 was read and adopted.

Item 2 was read.

Paul Whitehead moved an amendment, which was adopted, as follows:

"That Chapter VI., Section 5, Answer to Question 1, page 141, be amended by striking out all after 'defense,' and inserting, 'and in case of trial before a committee, he shall be allowed a peremptory challenge of two in a committee of five, and in like ratio for any other number, besides unlimited right of challenge for *cause*, of the validity of which cause the presiding officer in the trial shall be the judge.' "

Item 3 was read and adopted.

Item 4 was read.

N. H. Lee moved to amend by substituting "take with him" for "appoint"—the amendment prevailed. The item was adopted.

Items 5, 6, 7, 8, were read and adopted.

The report as a whole was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 6 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to present as their report No. 6, that they have patiently and thoughtfully examined sundry papers on the subject of Church-trials, referred to them, and without specifically mentioning their concurrence or non-concurrence with the suggestions of the several memorials, petitions, and resolutions, had under consideration, they respectfully recommend, as the result of their deliberations, the following changes in the book of Discipline, to wit:

1. Strike out all of Answer 1, Question 2, Section 4, Chapter VI., pages 135, 136, of the Discipline, and insert in place thereof the following:

"When a local preacher is under report of immorality, in the absence of a bill of charges, signed by a member of our Church, the preacher in charge shall appoint a committee of three members of the Church—local preachers if they can be had—to investigate the report; and if they judge a trial necessary, they shall see that a bill of charges and specifications be drawn in proper form, and shall select a member of the Church to prosecute the case before the ensuing Quarterly Conference: *provided*, a copy of the charges and specifications be delivered to the accused a suffi-

cient length of time before the trial, to enable him to make all necessary preparations for his defense."

2. On page 140 of Discipline, so change second paragraph of Answer 1, Question 1, Section 5, Chapter VI., that it shall read:

"When a member of the Church is under report of immorality, in the absence of a bill of charges, signed by a member of our Church, the preacher in charge shall appoint a committee of three discreet members, who shall investigate the report; and if they judge a trial necessary, they shall prepare a bill of charges and specifications, and appoint a member of the Church to prosecute the case."

3. Substitute last paragraph of Answer 1 of same question, on page 142, with the following:

"If, after sufficient notice, the accused evade trial by absenting himself, let the trial proceed as though he were present. Witnesses from without shall not be rejected."

4. Amend Answer 2 to Question 1, Section 5, Chapter VI., page 143, by striking out the words "proper humiliation," and inserting "promise of amendment," so that the sentence shall read, "and if there be an acknowledgment of the fault and promise of amendment, the person may be borne with." Then, strike out all of the same answer, from the words "borne with," and insert the following: "Otherwise, the preacher shall take with him two or three faithful friends, who shall labor to bring the offender to proper repentance; but if he will not hear them, and there be no sign of amendment, the offender must be dealt with as in case of immorality."

5. On page 143, from last clause of third answer, strike out the words "expelled from the Church," and insert in their place, "dealt with as in case of immorality," so that it shall read, "and if he persist in such pernicious practices, he shall be dealt with as in case of immorality."

6. On page 145, from last clause of Answer 2, Question 2, same chapter, strike out "excluded from the Church," and insert instead, "dealt with as in case of immorality," so that the clause shall read, "and any person refusing to abide by such judgment shall be dealt with as in case of immorality."

7. From the eighth line of Answer 3, Question 2, same chapter, page 145, strike out the word "expelled," and insert instead, "dealt with as in case of immorality," so that the clause shall read, "he shall be dealt with as in case of immorality, unless the

case be of such a nature as to require and justify a process at law."

From first part of next paragraph of same answer, on same page, strike out all to the word "signify," and insert the following: "In all cases of suspension or expulsion, the accused shall have the right of appeal to the ensuing Quarterly Conference," so that it shall read thus: "In all cases of suspension or expulsion, the accused shall have the right of appeal to the ensuing Quarterly Conference: *provided*, he signify to the pastor his intention to appeal at the time of his condemnation, or at any time thereafter when officially informed thereof."

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

Report No. 1 on Education, which was recommitted this morning, as amended by the committee, was presented by W. W. Duncan, of the Committee on Education, and was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 ON EDUCATION.

Your committee, to whom was referred a paper relating to the education of the colored people, have duly considered the same, and respectfully submit the following report:

The education of the colored people we recognize as a great religious duty, therefore we rejoice in the fact that considerable progress has been made in providing the means of education for the colored race in the Southern States. We recommend our people everywhere to encourage, by all means in their power, the mental and moral culture of the millions of colored persons in their midst.

The guiding hand and transforming spirit of the Church must be felt in the work of education. From the date of its organization to the present hour, the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has been thoroughly alive to the moral and religious welfare of the African race. It is not claiming too much when we affirm that for whatever is praiseworthy in their conduct during the trying ordeal through which they have passed, for whatever is gratifying in their present condition, and for whatever is hopeful in the prospect of their future, the colored people of the Southern States are more indebted to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, than to any other agency. The changes of the past have wrought no change in the heart of the Church; it is still ready to work for the salvation of this people to the full measure of its

ability and opportunity. We therefore deem it proper to give this expression of our interest in their behalf, and respectfully submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the education of the colored people of the South is demanded alike by Christian duty and enlightened benevolence.

Resolved, That in all efforts that may be made by the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America to establish educational institutions for the moral and religious training of the colored race, we bespeak the cordial sympathy and practical aid of our people.

Respectfully submitted. W. P. HARRISON, Chairman.

A. M. Shipp, chairman of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, presented Reports Nos. 4 and 5 of that committee, which were read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 4 ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Fraternal Correspondence beg leave to report for adoption the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the College of Bishops be authorized to appoint a delegation of two to convey, in person or by letter, the fraternal greetings of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, and to the African Methodist Episcopal Church, at the next sessions of their General Conferences.

A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

REPORT NO. 5 ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Fraternal Correspondence beg leave to report for adoption the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the second Wednesday of the session of the General Conference, to be held in the city of ———, in May, 1882, is suggested as the day for the reception of Fraternal Delegations, and that the evening of that day, and such other evenings as the Conference may order, shall be set apart for listening to addresses from delegations; and that all bodies in correspondence with us be fully advertised, in our letters and by our visiting delegates, of the day ordered by this body for the reception of Fraternal Delegates, their letters, and their words of greeting.

A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

Report No. 7 on Revisal was taken up and read, as follows:

REPORT NO. 7 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to report that they have had under consideration that clause of the Bishops' Address relating to popular amusements, signed by J. B. McGehee and N. W. Dozier, asking that a prominent place in our book of Discipline be given to the specific rule on dancing, theater-going, etc., and a resolution on the same subject, signed by A. T. Winsor and J. F. Rucker, with the subject-matter of which they recommend concurrence, by amending Ans. 2, Sec. 5, Chap. VI., page 142, of the Discipline, so as to read: "But in case of neglect of duties of any kind, improper conduct, such as dancing, attending or encouraging dancing-parties or dancing-schools, attending theaters, circuses, and horse-races, card-playing, or any other amusement which cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus."

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

S. Rodgers moved to amend by inserting the word "non" before the word "concurrence."

After considerable discussion, J. S. Martin called for the previous question—the call was sustained—the question was put, and the amendment was adopted—yeas, 137; nays, 81.

Leave of absence was granted to J. D. Shaw, clerical delegate from North-west Texas Conference, and C. E. Brown, reserve, takes his place.

On motion of E. E. Wiley, the time was extended to give the Fraternal Messengers the opportunity to take leave of the Conference.

The Rev. Dr. Douglass, Fraternal Messenger from the Canada Connection, was brought forward, and made an affecting parting address to the Conference, closing with the expression of a request that two Fraternal Messengers may be sent by the Conference to the next session of the Canada General Conference, which is to meet in Montreal next September. He pleasantly intimated that Bishop Pierce and Governor Colquitt would receive a most cordial welcome.

The Fraternal Messengers of the African M. E. Church followed in earnest words of parting salutation.

Dr. Douglass then arose and extended a cordial invitation to all the members of the Conference to visit the Canada General Conference, and in particular the Secretary of this body.

The occasion was one of great interest.

The Chair then announced the following as the Committee of Nine on Nomination of the Book Committee: N. H. Lee, J. R. Goodwin, John A. Ellis, W. B. Parsons, J. P. Kelly, J. M. Steel, Geo. M. Baine, Wm. Burr, W. P. Barton.

An invitation to the local preachers of the M. E. Church, South, to attend the Annual Convention of the National Association of Methodist Local Preachers, to be held in Louisville, Ky., beginning October 19, 1878, was received, read, and ordered to be printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate*.

Conference then adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop, to meet this afternoon at 3:15 o'clock.

Thursday Afternoon, May 23, 1878.

Conference met at the appointed hour, Bishop Paine in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by C. W. Carter.

The Minutes were read, corrected, and confirmed.

Bishop Pierce took the chair.

W. C. Johnson, clerical reserve delegate from the Memphis Conference, took the place of S. W. Moore, who had left.

The following resolutions were offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That the General Conference authorize the patronizing Conferences to elect the editors of their respective Church papers, and report the editors thus elected to this General Conference.

Resolved, That the above does not apply to the *Nashville Christian Advocate*, whose editor shall be elected by the direct vote of the General Conference.

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| J. O. A. CLARK, | JOHN HOGAN, |
| J. S. KEY, | S. REGESTER, |
| N. H. D. WILSON, | S. S. ROSZELL. |

The following item, presented as an addition to the regulations adopted for the government of the Publishing House, as a part of Report No. 5 on Publishing Interests, was adopted—a motion to lay it on the table not prevailing:

“The said Agent, by and with the consent of the Book Committee, may employ a Publisher and Business Manager, whose duty it shall be to superintend and manage the Publishing and Business Department of said Publishing House, under the control and direction of said Agent and Committee.”

The Conference then proceeded to ballot for a Book Agent.

J. S. Martin, J. W. Heidt, S. S. Bryant, and W. L. C. Hunnicutt, were appointed tellers.

The first balloting resulted as follows: A. H. Redford 23, J. W. Burke 27, L. D. Dameron 26, H. F. Johnson 9, R. W. Blew 5, J. Hardeman 2, J. B. McFerrin 82, L. D. Palmer 11, N. H. D. Wilson 2, T. M. Finney 3, R. A. Young 12, J. B. Wilson 5, T. O. Summers, J. W. Rush, L. S. Burkhead, G. M. Bain, O. R. Blue, J. W. Gaut, Blank, D. Morton, A. G. Haygood, H. J. Adams, J. C. Martin, R. K. Hargrove, C. G. Montgomery, W. M. Rush, W. F. Korne-gay, Thos. Branch, R. J. Harp, T. G. Whitten, one each. The whole number of votes cast was 226. No election.

At the close of the vote, R. A. Young arose and said: "I am not a merchant—I am not a publisher—I am not a capitalist; and, therefore, I hope no more votes will be cast for me on the next ballot. I should decline if elected."

A. H. Redford, L. D. Dameron, and several others, who had been voted for, begged that their names might be withdrawn.

The second ballot resulted as follows: J. B. McFerrin 140, H. F. Johnson 18, L. D. Dameron 8, A. G. Haygood 3, R. W. Blew 2, S. Black 3, I. G. John 2, J. S. McCarver 2, L. D. Palmer 15, M. G. Veal 2, J. B. Wilson 3, J. W. Burke 2, W. C. McMillan, T. J. Magruder, T. F. Vanmeter, J. W. Gaut, J. Leach, A. M. Shipp, A. H. Redford, Johnson, Black, H. S. Johnson, Branch, Rodgers, D. Morton, Hargrove, one each. There were 214 votes cast. J. B. McFerrin, having received a majority, was declared Book Agent.

Conference then proceeded to vote for Editor of the *Nashville Christian Advocate*.

The Chair stated that as some spoke of voting for Thomas O. Summers, the present editor, the Chair was authorized to say that he could not accept the office, and votes ought not to be thrown away on his name.

The ballot resulted as follows: There were 222 votes cast, of which J. W. Hinton received 26, T. O. Summers 11, O. P. Fitzgerald 61, L. Parker 30, H. A. M. Henderson 3, R. K. Hargrove 9, C. W. Miller 31, A. G. Haygood 14, A. W. Wilson 13, D. R. McAnally 6, J. M. Boland 2, W. C. Johnson 5, J. J. Lafferty, T. M. Finney, A. R. Winfield, W. H. Potter, W. G. Connor, R. N. Price, J. D. Barbee, I. G. John, F. M. Kennedy, one each. No election.

The names of D. R. McAnally, H. A. M. Henderson, and L. Parker, were withdrawn.

The second ballot resulted as follows: There were 220 votes cast, of which O. P. Fitzgerald received 115, R. K. Hargrove 6, W. L. C. Hunnicutt 2, L. Parker 9, C. W. Miller 43, A. W. Wilson 6, J. W. Hinton 31, T. A. S. Adams 2, T. O. Summers 2, A. G. Haygood 3, A. R. Winfield, W. F. Cook, S. Black, J. Barcroft, A. H. Redford, one each.

O. P. Fitzgerald, having received a majority of the votes cast, was pronounced duly elected Editor of the *Nashville Christian Advocate*.

On motion of D. C. Kelley, Thomas O. Summers was elected Editor of Books by acclamation.

On motion of T. J. Magruder, W. G. E. Cunnyingham was elected Sunday-school Editor by acclamation.

The order of the day was suspended to take up Report No. 7 on Missions, as follows:

REPORT NO. 7 ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions having carefully considered the subject of revision of the Constitution of the Board of Missions, respectfully report the following amended Constitution:

ARTICLE 1. There shall be a Board of Missions, which shall have charge of the Foreign Missions, and of all others not provided for by the Annual Conferences.

ART. 2. Said Board shall consist of a President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer, and seventeen Managers, to be elected quadrennially by the General Conference, and to continue in office until their successors are appointed. The Bishops shall be *ex officio* members of the Board.

ART. 3. The Board shall have authority to regulate its own proceedings, to appropriate money to defray incidental expenses, to provide for the support of superannuated missionaries, and widows and orphans of missionaries who may not be provided for by any Annual Conference; to print books for the Indian, German, Mexican, and other Foreign Missions; to build houses for worship, for schools, and for missionaries, and to defray the necessary expenses of the work under its care. It shall also publish annually a statement of its transactions, naming the missions supported by it, and the amount appropriated and paid to each, and lay before the General Conference a report of its operations.

ART. 4. The Board shall meet annually, to determine what fields shall be occupied as missions, the number of persons to be employed in each, and to estimate the amount that may be necessary for the support of the missions under its charge, and to divide the same among the several Annual Conferences—having reference in said division to the extent and importance of the home work in each Conference, and to the ability and disposition of the people to give.

ART. 5. The Board shall employ only effective men for its work, and shall require each one to make a quarterly report to the Secretary of his operations, and of the state and prospects of the work in his charge.

ART. 6. The revenue of the Board shall be derived from annual collections in every congregation, and from such other plans as may be adopted by the Church and congregation to raise money for this object, and from special collections by the Secretary and the Bishops, and from donations and legacies.

ART. 7. The Secretary shall be a minister of the gospel, and may be a member of any Annual Conference, but shall reside where the Board is located. He shall be *ex officio* Treasurer of the Board, and shall, before entering upon his duties as Secretary and Treasurer, give good and sufficient security for all moneys that may come into his hands. He shall be allowed clerical assistance not to exceed five hundred dollars per annum.

It shall be his duty to keep a permanent record of the proceedings of the Board, and to publish an abstract of them in the Church papers; to conduct its correspondence; to attend to all its legal business; to prepare its annual report; and to publish monthly (either in a missionary paper or in the Church papers, as the Board shall direct) statements of the condition, needs, and prospects of the various missions.

He shall receive and receipt for all moneys, countersign all drafts, hold the funds of the Board in safe deposit, which deposit shall be made by him as Secretary and Treasurer, subject to the draft of the President of the Board, countersigned by the Secretary and Treasurer; but in no case shall such funds be invested in his or any other business. He shall furnish an annual report for publication. His salary shall be fixed by the Board, and all his necessary traveling expenses shall be allowed.

ART. 8. The Board shall fill all vacancies that may occur.

ART. 9. Nine members shall constitute a quorum at an annual meeting of the Board, and seven at a called meeting.

ART. 10. This Board shall be located in the city of Nashville, Tennessee.

ART. 11. Each Annual Conference shall select a Missionary Secretary, who shall hold his office for one year, or until his successor is appointed. His duties shall be to receive and receipt for all moneys collected in said Conference, and make a report of said collections to the Conference before its adjournment, forward said collections to the Secretary and Treasurer of the Board of Missions, and give all due attention to the interests of the Board of Missions of the M. E. Church, South, in that Conference, and make due report to the Board: *provided*, that any person, Sunday-school, Church, or Missionary Society or Conference, may assume, in whole or in part, the support of a mission or mission-school established by the Board of Missions, and send their contributions to the Secretary and Treasurer of the Board, by whom they shall be applied strictly to the purpose for which they were contributed, and notice of transmission furnished to the donors: *provided*, farther, that the Conference in whose territory said moneys may be given shall have credit for the same in settling the apportionment of the Board of Missions.

ART. 12. The apportionment to a Conference for missions shall be divided by the Conference Board among the Districts, and the preachers in charge shall take up a collection in every congregation to meet the same.

ART. 13. The collections for missions shall not be taken with any other collection.

ART. 14. Any one of the Bishops, on the recommendation of the Board, shall appoint missionaries to the foreign field.

ART. 15. It shall be the duty of the Presiding Elder to bring the subject of missions prominently before the Quarterly Conference of each circuit and station, and see to it that efficient and well-defined modes and plans be adopted for raising missionary funds.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

W. S. JOHNSON, Secretary.

Art. 1 of the Constitution was adopted.

P. Whitehead moved to strike out the word "and" in Art. 2 of the Constitution, between the words Secretary and Treasurer. This motion prevailed, and Art. 2 was adopted.

Articles 3, 4, 5, 6, were read, and adopted.

On motion of J. E. Edwards, the remainder of the Constitution was substituted by the remaining Articles in the old Constitution.

The time was extended to go into the election of the Secretary and Board of Missions.

On motion of A. R. Winfield, the Chair was requested to appoint a committee of five to nominate the officers and members of the Board of Missions.

The Chair announced the following as the committee: A. R. Winfield, J. S. Key, H. P. Walker, S. Rodgers, P. A. Peterson.

The ballot for Secretary resulted as follows: There were 215 votes cast, of which D. C. Kelley received 52, W. H. Potter 28, A. W. Wilson 38, A. G. Haygood 7, E. R. Hendrix 9, P. A. Peterson 25, R. K. Hargrove 11, S. X. Hall 4, W. S. Harris 8, W. G. Connor 11, E. N. Watson 2, A. R. Winfield 7, A. S. Andrews 3, J. S. Martin, Sledd, Finney, Thomas, S. Rodgers, one each. No election.

On motion of G. M. Jones, when we adjourn we adjourn to meet to-morrow morning at 8:30.

The names of Hendrix, Peterson, Haygood, Winfield, and some others, were withdrawn.

The second ballot resulted as follows: There were 207 votes cast, of which D. C. Kelley received 69 votes, A. W. Wilson 108, W. H. Potter 22, A. G. Haygood 2, Hendrix, Winfield, Peterson, and S. X. Hall, one each. A. W. Wilson was declared duly elected Secretary of the Board of Missions.

On motion of J. E. Edwards, Report No. 7 of the Committee on Itinerancy was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, after reading the Minutes.

A. R. Winfield, chairman of the committee to nominate the officers and members of the Board of Missions, announced the following:

T. O. Summers, President; N. H. Lee, Vice-president; James W. Manier, Treasurer. *Managers*—J. S. Martin, Baltimore Conference; W. G. E. Cunyningham, Holston Conference; L. S. Burkhead, North Carolina Conference; H. A. C. Walker, South Carolina Conference; W. H. Potter, North Georgia Conference; R. A. Young, Tennessee Conference; P. A. Peterson, Virginia Conference; D. C. Kelley, Tennessee Conference; A. H. Redford, Louisville Conference; I. G. John, Texas Conference; A. R. Winfield, Little Rock Conference; J. W. Lewis, St. Louis Conference; W. F. Johnson (Lexington), Missouri Conference; J. C. Simmons, Pacific Conference; O. P. Fitzgerald, Pacific Conference; J. D. Hamilton, Tennessee Conference; C. B. Gallaway, Mississippi Conference. These nominations were confirmed.

Conference then adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop.

Friday Morning, May 24, 1878.

Conference met at the appointed hour, Bishop Pierce in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by John Hogan.

The Minutes were read and approved.

The order of the day was suspended to allow J. S. Martin, chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, to present Report No. 11 of that committee, which was received. The resolutions were read and adopted. The report was ordered to be printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate* and spread on the Journal.

REPORT NO. 11 ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy have given much time and care to the examination of the Journals of the several Annual Conferences. The Conference-sessions held since the General Conference of 1874 have thus passed under review, both as to matters of administration and faithfulness of record. Too much consideration has not been thus given, in view of the stringent order of the General Conference of 1866—that “Secretaries of the several Annual Conferences record all the acts of the Conference of every kind whatever in the consecutive order of their occurrence in an appendix;” also the request that the Bishops should supervise the Conference Journals, and direct the Secretary to the requirements of the General Conference as to the manner of keeping their Journals. This request to the Bishops was repeated at the session of the General Conference of 1870, and also at that of 1874, with special directions as to the order to be observed for keeping a full and minute record of every act, report, and resolution of an Annual Conference. The corrections called for in this report on the Journals of the Conferences, hereinafter named, come under the rules which this body at previous session has enacted, and by which alone a judgment could be formed. In view of the requests thus made to the Bishops at previous General Conferences to supervise the Conference Journals, and the directions to Secretaries thus particularized, the committee present the following report of their examination of the several Annual Conference Journals:

Baltimore Conference.—This Journal is above all criticism.

Virginia Conference.—This is the most consistently inaccurate Journal we have examined, as its omissions run alike through each year of the *quadriennium*.

1874. The Secretary failed to write the minute questions. They are called by number, as "Conference took up minute question 20." (See page 25.) The failure to record questions, instead of numbering them, occurs so frequently that we cannot mention them in their order.

Another omission of such frequent occurrence as to almost defy enumeration is the passing of character of superannuated preachers, assigning brethren to supernumerary relations, and granting locations, without calling or recording the questions under which such minutes should be made. (See page 26.)

Page 26. No mention of question 6, though three brethren were received by transfer. This kind of minute is repeated more than once.

Under question 1. Parties were received on trial, but nothing said of an approval examination by the Conference. This occurs on pages 27, 67, 69, 79, 82, 91, 92.

Question 2. "Who remain on trial?" A number continued, but no mention made of any examination on the course of study. This class of omissions is frequent, and marks each of the four years. (See pages 27, 46, 99, etc.)

Question 4. No approved examination mentioned on course of study, though many were admitted into full connection. (See page 28, and others too numerous to mention.)

Page 30. Question 12, no examination reported by Committee on Course of Study, though several were elected to elder's orders. This occurs repeatedly.

Page 51. Ordinations recorded, but questions 9, 11, 13, and 15, not asked. This often occurs.

Page 46. The following occurs: "Question 4, Who are admitted into full connection? and question 9, What traveling preachers were elected deacons?" were taken up. Brethren passed "in examination of character, and were severally elected to deacon's orders." No mention of examination by the Committee on Course of Study.

Page 46. Question 7, no examination on course of study reported, though three were passed and advanced to the class of the year.

Under all questions requiring approved examinations on the course of study, preparatory to advancement, there is a sad want of compliance with rules. Local deacons were elected to elder's orders without any statement, written or oral, as to belief in the doctrine and discipline of our Church.

Page 46. Nov. 19, seven were elected (under question 8) to deacon's orders. On page 51, three days after, the Bishop announced that he had ordained the seven brethren as deacons. Page 52, three days after their election, and one day after their ordination, they were severally admitted into full connection. In the above case no report is mentioned of examination by the Committee on Course of Study.

Page 94. Members were granted leave of absence. Before leaving they were allowed to cast their votes for delegates to General Conference some days in advance of the election. The brethren deposited their ballots in sealed envelopes.

Western Virginia Conference.—Session of 1874. Page 288, minutes of the previous session not read and approved.

Page 290. Certain persons are admitted into full connection and elected to deacon's orders, without any record of questions 8 and 9, or of their formal reception as provided for by the Discipline. A similar omission page 330, session of 1875.

Page 331, session of 1875. Certain persons are "recognized" by their Quarterly Conferences, and on this recognition are elected deacons.

Page 332. Question 14, written "ordained" instead of "elected."

Page 333. J. F. G. is received from the Baptist Church, he presenting his credentials for recognition, accompanied by the proper recommendation; but nothing is said of his agreement with us in doctrine and discipline.

Session of 1876. Page 15 (new Journal), certain persons are elected to elder's orders, there being no note of their agreement with us in doctrine or discipline.

Session of 1877. Page 58—under question 12, "elders elected" without any minute of their having passed an examination on the course of study.

Page 59. Question 12 was called. It is answered that F. M. Y. was called, his character was passed, and he asked a location. He was afterward granted a supernumerary relation (page 66), so that the question and answer do not correspond.

The sessions of 1876 and 1877 show a marked improvement in its clerical execution, and in other respects.

Holston Conference.—The Journal uniformly throughout the four years omits to show that under-graduates, who were advanced to higher classes, stood an approved examination before the proper committees.

In the session of 1874 question 17 is not called or recorded.

Page 422. Parties are admitted into full connection under the call of question 14.

This Journal is well kept, and the work neatly done.

North Carolina Conference.—The Journal of this Conference presents great neatness, taste, and artistic beauty; also good arrangement of all its business. Yet the following are noted as defects:

Session 1874. Page 1, the roll was called, but no names recorded. It is stated by the Secretary, "Nearly all answered to their names, but few being absent."

No laymen, as representatives, are mentioned as present at this session.

Page 4. Under question 14, a brother was elected elder without any statement of his belief in the doctrine and discipline of our Church.

Page 6. The roll was called—nothing else said.

Page 12. Under question 20, no names of elders are recorded. The Journal says, "The elders in four Districts passed the examination of character."

Page 15. Question 8, three local preachers were elected deacons, but no recommendations of Quarterly Conferences mentioned.

Page 16. Under question 16, two are located, but it is not said their characters passed. The same omission also occurs under questions 17 and 18, on page 17, and on page 18 seven brethren are named as continued superannuated, but no reference is made to passage of their character.

Page 53. The Journal is not signed by the Bishop.

1875. Page 72, several are continued as superannuated and supernumerary, but no passage of their character is mentioned.

1876. "The credentials" of a brother were "recognized according to Discipline"—nothing else is said.

1876. Page 22, election of General Conference delegates—there is no statement of the aggregate strength of the Conference, or how many delegates should be elected.

South Carolina Conference.—Page 287, under question 1, it is stated that T. C. V. was left to be employed by the P. E.—no mention is made of his having been rejected; page 258, question 10, J. C., C. B., and others, were elected to deacon's orders—no mention of examination; page 258, persons admitted on trial—no mention made of examination or recommendation; page 264, W.

S. in the chair; same page, W. H. F. in the chair—not stated by what authority they get there; page 288, local preachers elected to deacon's orders—no mention of their recommendation.

This Journal is well kept.

North Georgia Conference.—Journal. Penmanship good; minutes neatly kept, and in some respects to be commended, but the following defects appear:

1874. Page 266, under question 20, changes of relation without reference to appropriate questions. Same errors occur on pages 268, 325, 318, 319, 401.

Page 271. Under question 7, advancement to class of fourth year, without report of examining committee; reports of examining committee omitted under question 3, page 315, also 312, 316, 325.

Page 306. Statistics only give the number of local preachers, white and colored members. A preacher discontinued, and immediately announced as a transfer from the Arkansas Conference.

Page 316. Under question 14 there was no note furnished of "agreement in doctrine with our Church;" again repeated on pages 355, 403.

Page 318. Question 14, a transfer is announced from the Baltimore Conference as elected to elder's orders, and an elder transferred from the South Georgia Conference as having stood an examination before committee of fourth year, and placed among deacons of one year.

Page 325. Distribution of money for Conference claimants not stated in Journal or Appendix.

1876. Page 352, under question 1 preachers admitted on trial without recommendation or favorable report of examining committee. This error again repeated on page 353. Under question 4 the disciplinary examination and examination of committee precede examination of character. *Query:* Which should appear first?

Minutes of last day of session not read and approved.

South Georgia Conference.—1874. Page 221, under question 4 two preachers were passed and continued on trial; page 232 statistical report read and adopted. Referred to in Appendix, page 252, but full statistics not given, only the aggregate answer to each question; page 259, transfer of J. Anthony, but not placed under question 6; page 260, under question 18, the character of an effective preacher examined and passed—it should have been under question 20; page 262, question 3, "the following past;"

"past," page 300, question 17; "past," page 301, question 18; question 3, page 303; question 7; repeated question 16, page 263; page 272, details of statistics not given.

1876. Page 340, statistics not in detail; page 340, election of General Conference delegates. Lay delegates were permitted to retire to hold their election. *Query*: Is this "in Conference assembled?"

Florida Conference.—Session of January, 1877. Page 83, "S. K., of the Methodist Protestant Church, was recognized with (in) elder's orders, the Quarterly Conference recommending." It is not stated that he certified his agreement with us in doctrine and discipline.

Session of November, 1877. Page 104, a committee of investigation is appointed in the case of W. M. M.; the said committee state a trial to be necessary. The report is received, but the minutes do not state whether such a trial was ever had.

This Journal is well kept, and worthy of commendation.

Alabama Conference.—1874. Parchments of a local elder returned to the Conference. No cause given. (Page 21.)

1875. Deacons of one year. No record of having passed the committee. (Page 102.) Traveling preachers elected elders. No record of having passed the committee. (Page 102.) John S. Moses, deacon of one year, asked for farther time to go before the committee. No record of what was done. (Page 102.) But on page 107, J. S. Moses was passed to deacon of one year—no record being made that he had gone before the committee. Are the preachers blameless? etc. (Page 109.) The record is: "The roll was called, and one by one the characters of the preachers examined, and all were passed." No names given.

1876. Certain preachers admitted into full connection who passed an approved examination, but no mention of having satisfactorily answered the disciplinary questions. (Page 184.) Same of deacons of one year. (Page 187.) Same of those who remain on trial. (Page 187.) This Journal does not give the number of the members of the Annual Conference, so as to show what number of delegates to the General Conference they were entitled to. In some respects especial praise is due this Journal.

North Alabama Conference.—1874. Page 5, no mention of the passage of characters of supernumerary preachers; page 6, question 8, no examination by committee reported; the same is true of question 12 on the same page, and of question 4 on page 7;

page 10, question; no examination reported by committee. The same is true respecting deacons of one year (question 7), and on page 11 the same applies to those who are admitted on trial; questions 17 and 18 show no examination or passage of character.

1875. Page 44, no examination or passage of character mentioned under question 17; page 49, no examination reported by committee of candidates for admission on trial; page 15, members located and superannuated mentioned, without record of passage of character.

1876. Page 102, no examination mentioned on question 7; page 103, question 12, no examination recorded; page 105, question 2, no examination of committee reported; the same is true of those under questions 17 and 18, on page 107.

This Journal is neatly kept; excepting the class of omissions noted, the work would need no correction; these omissions run through the entire four years.

Louisiana Conference.—1874. Page 16, question 21, the word "local" omitted.

1875. Question written incorrectly, pages 72, 73, 82, 91, 100. A local preacher is elected elder, but it is not stated that he sent a note certifying his belief in the doctrines of our Church. The following questions are not given by number, viz.: 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30. It is not stated whether the minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved.

1877. Thirty-second session, page 121, "John Pipes, President; J. S. F., Secretary *pro tem.*;" roll not called; afternoon session, no mention of the President; page 122, it is said the roll was completed, but no names of members present; minutes not read; page 133, question 11, it is not stated that persons named were elected deacons, though the fact might be inferred.

Mississippi Conference.—This is a well-kept and generally correct Journal; but few corrections are found to be necessary; attention is called to the following: page 134, question 5 is asked, "Who are admitted?" the only answer is "John Lusk, in elder's orders;" page 148, session of 1876, the Journal was not signed by the Bishop; page 154, questions 4 and 10 both asked together; if two questions could be called and answered together, question 10 is not the proper one, but question 8 should have been called.

North Mississippi Conference.—1874. Page 133, question 6, three

transfers received, but no Conference named from which they were transferred.

1876. Page 195, second day, "A large number of clerical and lay members having arrived, took their seats;" no roll-call mentioned, or of new arrivals.

1877. The record does not show the aggregate voting strength or constituency of the Conference, at the election of delegates to the General Conference.

The Journal of this Conference is fine, and, except the above, without a defect.

Memphis Conference.—Page 541. The report on memoirs was read and recorded; no mention made of adoption. With this exception, the Journal is beyond criticism.

Tennessee Conference.—Page 104. The character of A. A. A. was examined and passed; it is not stated to what class he belonged.

In the sessions of 1874 and 1875, no record is made of the vote to sit with open doors during the regular examination of character; page 104, this item occurs: "The character of S. H. was examined and passed, and he belongs to the fourth year's class." How and when did he get there? Page 184, W. H. R. was granted a supernumerary relation, without reference to the question; pages 185, 188, two sessions report Dr. J. B. McFerrin in the chair, without mention of the authority by which he got there. In many places the questions, Who are supernumerary? Who are superannuated? are asked, and answered by the simple record of names, without reference to passage of character (see pages 151, 169, 193); pages 201, 202, 205, certain persons are admitted on trial, without mention of their examination before the committee, and on page 154 certain persons are admitted on trial without mention of their recommendation by their Quarterly Conferences; page 205, certain persons are received into full connection, no mention made of answering the disciplinary questions; page 216, persons elected to deacon's orders without record of the question; page 238, C. W. W. is admitted on trial, no mention made of his recommendation by Quarterly Conference, or examination before a committee; page 231, J. B. McFerrin in the chair, no reference to his authority for being there; at the adjournment the Bishop pronounced the benediction, no notice being made of the Bishop's taking the chair; page 252, W. R. L. admitted into full connection, nothing said about examination before the committee, or of answering the disciplinary questions;

page 277, the orders of B. T. J., late a teaching elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, were recognized—nothing said of his subscription to doctrine and discipline, or of taking our ordination vows; page 287, Who remain on trial? “The characters of E. A. C. and others were continued on trial”—nothing said about examination before the committee; page 180, no mention made of the voting strength of the Conference, when going into the election of delegates to the General Conference.

The clerical execution of this Journal is very creditable.

Kentucky Conference.—This Journal has much in its praise, but we note the following defects:

1874. Who remain on trial? no record of having been recommended by the committee, page 326; deacon of one year, no record of having been recommended by the committee, page 320; report of Joint Board of Finance, printed and pasted in the Journal, page 348.

1875. Orders of R. B., deacon from Protestant Episcopal Church, recognized “according to our laws in such cases.” Had been received as local preacher by two Conferences, had been recommended by two committees, but is not said he took our ordination vows or sent a “certified subscription to our doctrines,” etc.

1876. B. A. had been suspended for six months; during that time he had preached; committee of investigation was appointed; committee reported facts true. On motion, his character passed, and he was located for contumacy.

Louisville Conference.—Page 302. Transfers announced without the question; page 304, question 20 was called up, the words of the question not recorded; page 305, “H. N. H. granted a supernumerary,” without the record of the question; similar omission in the location of R. B. McC., page 305; also, in the discontinuance of William J. F., page 307; also, in the location of L. H., page 307; also, in the granting of J. R. S. a superannuated relation, page 312; also, in the discontinuance of A. R. C., page 318; and also, in the location, superannuation, and grant of supernumerary relations to various parties, page 355. Page 306, J. S. W. was tried by a committee of nine—no mention made of a committee of investigation; page 311—after question 1, certain persons were received on trial; then follows the minute, “On motion, the Presiding Elders were permitted to employ Jesse B. and Isaac F.”—no mention is made of their having been rejected; page 322 and page 344, the last sessions of 1874 and 1875 were

closed without reading and approving the minutes of those sessions; page 478, Conference was called to order by J. P. G.—authority by which he did so not stated; page 494—sixth day—Conference met, David M. in the chair—by what authority he came there not stated.

St. Louis Conference.—Twenty-seventh session, 1874. Page 138, the names of local preachers and ordained deacons are recorded, but not under the appropriate question, 11; the name of a traveling preacher, ordained elder, appears on the same page, but the appropriate question, 13, is not recorded or referred to; pages 138, 143, the names of preachers who located are recorded, but the appropriate question, 16, does not appear; page 144, the names of ministers received by transfer from other Conferences are given, but the proper question, 6, is neither called nor recorded; page 148, the minutes of this session are not signed by the Secretary.

Twenty-eighth session, 1875. Page 182, a location is recorded, but there is no mention made of the question, 16; pages 176, 191, preachers are discontinued, but the appropriate question, 3, is neither asked nor indicated; pages 182, 183, it is said that certain traveling preachers were elected elders, but question 12 is not called nor referred to; page 184, it is stated that a preacher was granted a superannuated relation, but there is no mention of the appropriate question, 48; page 188, the names of preachers ordained deacons are given, but it is not stated whether they are traveling preachers or local, or both—the appropriate questions, 9, 11, do not occur; page 189, the names of preachers ordained elders are recorded, but whether traveling preachers or local, or both, is not stated—the appropriate question, 17, is neither asked nor referred to; page 191, the Journal shows that a certain preacher was made supernumerary, but the proper question, 17, is neither called nor recorded.

Twenty-ninth session, 1876. Page 234, the minutes of second day do not state who was in the chair, neither do they show that the Journal of the preceding session was read and approved; page 238, two preachers are discontinued, but the appropriate question, 3, is not called nor recorded; page 241, a preacher is granted a superannuated relation, but the appropriate question is neither asked nor indicated; page 244, R. F. C. was made supernumerary, but the proper question is not recorded nor referred to; pages 244, 245, a preacher from "Baptist Church" was recog-

nized as a local elder," but it is not stated that he was recommended by a Quarterly Conference, or that he subscribed to our doctrines and discipline, or that he took upon him our ordination vows.

Thirtieth session, 1877. Page 288, the name of a transfer from another Conference is recorded, but the appropriate question, 6, is not called nor referred to; page 290, several ministers were superannuated, or, as the Secretary says, "continued" in that relation, but the appropriate question, 18, is not called nor indicated; page 290, a preacher was made supernumerary, but the proper question, 17, is not asked nor referred to; the same error on page 293; page 294, question 14, it is recorded that certain local preachers were elected elders, but it is not stated that they certified their belief in the doctrine and discipline of our Church; page 299, it is recorded that the Bishop reported that certain persons were ordained deacons, and that certain other persons were ordained elders, but it is not stated whether these persons were traveling preachers or local, or both, and there is no reference to the appropriate question. The "running heading," required by the General Conference of 1874, is frequently omitted.

With the exception of the omissions, etc., indicated above, this Journal has been well kept, and is in good style.

Missouri Conference.—Session of 1875. Page 382, it is said, "Bishop K., being appointed Superintendent for this Conference, took the chair." *Query:* Are Bishops appointed, and by whom? Page 385, question 7, certain persons, "deacons, not having been examined, are continued in second year's class;" same page, four questions are written, and answers are in the same paragraph; page 398, answer to two questions in one paragraph, and the questions are not recorded; pages 435, 439, 449, question 16 is not recorded, and yet the minutes show at least five locations during the session; page 489, under question 20, J. P. was placed on the superannuated list, and three others were located; same page, under question 14, W. M. G. is elected an elder, and yet it is not stated that he certified his agreement with us in doctrine and discipline; page 494 shows a distribution of the money in the hands of the Joint Board of Finance, but their report is not adopted till the next day.

Except the above, this Journal has in all respects a high degree of merit.

South-west Missouri Conference.—The following defects appear:

1874. Page 82, question 6, called "Who are received by transfer?" The names of four preachers were announced and severally introduced—nothing more. Page 83, under question 4, no disciplinary examinations by the Bishop before the Conference; the candidates are only said to have been examined and passed. Under the same question it is said, L. W. H. was "called, passed, and discontinued;" also, "a deacon passed examination of third year;" also, three preachers named as "not present, and continued on trial"—actions of Conference which should have been classed under questions 2, 3, 4, 7. On the same page three preachers are said to have been called before the Conference, and examined according to Discipline, and yet nothing is said as to examination by committee. Question 7, nothing said of examination by committee. Under question 12, a preacher was elected elder, yet it is not said he passed examination before committee; on page 86 the same omission. Question 20—under this a preacher was located. Page 86, under question 1, preachers were admitted on trial, yet there was no examination on the course of study. Question 14 was called, and two preachers from the Methodist Protestant Church are recorded to have been *recognized* in orders; nothing is said of recommendation, or of a certificate of their agreement in our doctrine, or of the assumption of our ordination vows. On page 92 it is said the following memoir was read, but no memoir is found. Page 103, under question 1, preachers are admitted on trial, but there was no examination before a committee stated; under question 4, it is said a preacher was discontinued; under question 7, no examination by committee of the preachers there named; under question 12, no examination before committee on election of elders. On page 106, question 4, it is said a preacher "was discontinued;" under question 12, no examination before committee of those elected elders. Page 111, on motion, the character of J. A. M. was *adopted*. Page 112, preachers admitted on trial, but no examination before a committee; case of a superannuated preacher disposed of under question 2; Secretary presented answers to questions 21, 22, 23, but not stated what the answers were, and no statistics found, as in the two preceding sessions.

1877. Page 161, no examination of preacher on course of study under questions 2, 6, 7, respectively. Page 162, no examination of preachers on the course of study, or by the Bishop under question 4; under question 14, local elder elected, but no certificate of

agreement with our doctrines. Page 166, in election of delegates the aggregate number of members of Conference, and the number of delegates to be elected, not named. As in the three preceding sessions, the statistics are not recorded, nor questions relating to them asked.

Western Conference.—This Journal is not paged.

1874—Fifth session. First day, character of two members arrested—no statement of complaint, or committee appointed to investigate said complaint; afterward committees reported a trial necessary in both cases, and the brethren were put upon their trial. Fourth question called; C. C. A. admitted into full connection, and elected to deacon's orders—no statement that he was ever brought before the Conference to answer the usual disciplinary questions.

1875. A brother was superannuated, but question 18 neither called nor recorded. The Secretary of this Conference signed the minutes of each day's session. His minutes are brief, but well written and creditable.

Indian Mission Conference.—Page 344, L. P. W. was continued supernumerary without the question; page 345, N. E. P. was continued on trial—no mention made of examination before committee; page 344, under question 20, certain persons were passed and continued in superannuated relation—no reference to question 18; page 345, this record occurs, "Wm. J. S., an elder from Moravian Church, stated that he agreed with our Church in doctrine and discipline"—nothing else stated; page 352, in reporting ordination of deacons, no distinction is made between local and traveling; page 353, this item, "The Conference adjourned to read the appointments," after which this item occurs, "The Conference adjourned with the benediction by the Bishop;" page 362, H. P. C. was discontinued under question 2—no reference made to question 3; page 362, "R. N. F. was received from 'Christian Union' in elder's orders as a traveling preacher," under question 6, "Who are received by transfer from other Conferences?"

The calling of the roll is dispensed with both in 1874 and 1875 without a vote.

In the closing exercises of 1875 and 1876 the minutes of the last session were not read or approved.

Page 378, under question 20, W. M. K. was continued on trial, and T. C. P. was granted a location; page 404, this item, "The

following members were present who were not present at a former session"—no names are given; page 411, ordinations announced, but no distinction between traveling and local. The statistical report was made, but no mention of its adoption, and there is no record of either in body of Journal or Appendix.

Arkansas Conference.—Handwriting good, well spaced, and marginal references satisfactory. Defective as follows:

Page 435, in calling roll it is said four members and others answered—no other names given; page 237, question 2, "resumed," then four names follow, one "laid over," three "continued on trial," one "elected to deacon's orders;" names appear under question 2 which should be under question 4; page 439, under question 12, one preacher was elected to elder's orders, two granted supernumerary relations; under question 14, the name of the Quarterly Conference is omitted—same error on page 496; page 441, preachers "discontinued" "readmitted," also on pages 441 and 512, without call of questions; page 476, "Reading of the minutes dispensed with for the remainder of the session," yet on page 477, "Minutes read and adopted;" page 478, under question 2, two preachers advanced to class of third year, one to class of fourth year, and then the three were "received into full connection;" page 479, under question 14, two names were written—nothing more; page 475, question 2, no report of "Committee of Examination."

Second day. "Roll called," "two clerical and three lay brethren answered to their names, and Conference proceeded to business;" page 496, "question 4," preachers' characters passed, and elected to deacon's orders, and under same question it is stated one "was continued on trial;" page 496, under question 14, no "note" required by Discipline "certifying belief in doctrines;" page 500, "reading of minutes omitted;" page 501, signature of Secretary does not appear; preachers superannuated, located, and made supernumerary, under "question 20;" error repeated on page 515; an elder of the United Baptist Church was recognized in orders in the local ranks upon a certificate of his reception into the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Statistical reports are handsomely recorded.

White River Conference.—The record of this Conference is very creditable, and but few corrections are required. We notice the following:

1874. Page 152, question 4, of a class of four preachers it is

recorded that "having passed a satisfactory examination, and nothing appearing against them, they were received into full connection"—no reference is made to their examination by a committee, or their response to the disciplinary questions from the Bishop before the Conference; the same omission appears in 1875, page 159; page 240, under question 17, it is said of two preachers, their "characters passed, and left on effective list;" page 244, under question 7, it is said of one, "character passed, and located at his own request;" also, on page 280, under question 7, there is a like misstatement of the number of the questions—relations of the preachers that should have been classed separately under questions 4, 7, and 10, are here under question 7; page 283, in the election of General Conference delegates, there is no statement of the number of voters, or of the delegates to which the Conference was entitled.

Little Rock Conference.—Session of 1874. Page 8, under question 8, C. B.'s name is called, and it is stated that "he had located"—it is not said how or by whom located; pages 16 and 22, "Andrew Hunter in the chair"—it is not stated by what authority he occupied it; page 19, no note here or afterward of the reading of the minutes of the previous session.

Session of 1875. Page 68, under question 10, it is said simply, Wm. Shelton was elected, without any note of recommendation by his Quarterly Conference; page 74, nothing is said of the reading of the minutes of the previous or present session, it being the closing session of the Conference.

Session of 1876. Page 101, under question 2, it is answered, "J. M. B. was discontinued;" page 102, under question 7, it is answered, "W. W. located;" same page, same question, "J. M. M. passed an approved examination, and was elected to elder's orders;" page 102, under question 1, it is "R. M. T.," nothing being said of examination by the committee, or recommendation by the Quarterly Conference; same page, under question 10, it is said "C. R. T. was elected," without reference to recommendation; page 103, under question 20, it is said, "A. M. was elected to elder's orders;" page 106, question 1, it is said, "L. M. K. was received"—it is not said whether he was recommended by a Quarterly Conference or examined on the prescribed studies; pages 105 and 112, nothing is said of the reading of the minutes of the previous session.

Session of 1877. Page 148, under question 4, certain persons

"were called up, and examined by the Bishop before the Conference as the Discipline directs," but nothing is said of examination on the studies prescribed, or passage of character; page 154, two questions are written as one—so, also, pages 156, 158; pages 166, 167, it is said, "A. R. W. was called to the chair"—he "called C. C. G. to the chair," but it is not said how the first-named was called to the chair, or by what authority he called the last-named to the chair; page 166, it is said, "Bishop K. asked and obtained leave of absence for himself and cabinet."

The errors in this Journal are numerous. Little regard is paid to the pertinency of the answers to the several questions of business.

Texas Conference.—Page 33. The Bishop appointed the Joint Board of Finance on the first day of the session, instead of the last day of former session, as the Discipline directs; pages 34, 52, 73, 81, 99, transfers are announced without any reference to the question; pages 49, 53, 56, 58, 73, 74, 77, persons are located, and superannuated, and placed in the supernumerary relation, without the record of the proper questions; page 35, F. M. M. readmitted, nothing said about recommendation by Quarterly Conference; page 35, on the first day's session no mention is made of adjournment, the Secretary calls the names of persons who are yet on trial on the roll of the Conference (see pages 35, 36, 37); page 37, certain persons admitted into full connection without mention of their answering the disciplinary questions; page 37, it is recorded in the minutes of the third day's session that the minutes of the first day's session were read and approved at the opening of the second day's session; pages 40, 41, under question 8, What traveling preachers are elected deacons? C. C. was elected, although on page 36 it is stated that he was received on trial; if he was a missionary there is no mention made of it; page 43, question 5, M. H. P. was readmitted—no recommendation from Quarterly Conference; page 54, T. R. C. and others were continued on trial—no mention made of the passage of character; page 55, R. T. N. and others received into full connection without answering disciplinary questions; page 56, under question 7, Who are the deacons of one year? M. C. F. was elected to elder's orders; there is also no mention of passage of his character; page 57, certain local preachers were elected deacons—no recommendation from Quarterly Conference mentioned; page 58, the Statistical Secretary made report—no mention made of its record.

page 77, persons admitted into full connection—no mention made of answering disciplinary questions; page 92, minutes of last session not read and approved; page 99, a court of trial was ordered in the case of T. B. B., and on page 100 the case was reconsidered, and a committee of investigation was ordered; page 102, under question 7, Who are the deacons of one year? D. M. and S. H. B. are elected to elder's orders; page 103, in the election of delegates to the General Conference the voting strength of the Conference is not given; the laymen are dismissed to the Bible-class room to hold their election, instead of holding their election before Conference; page 116, Conference adjourned *sine die* by singing and benediction, yet afterward questions 9, 11, 13, 15, are asked and answered; page 116, the minutes of the last day's session not read and approved.

East Texas Conference.—Pages 4, 26, 28, certain persons received on trial—no mention made of their examination; page 7, G. T. C. recognized as a deacon from the Methodist Protestant Church—no record of doctrine and discipline certified to, or vows; pages 14, 21, omission of names in report of Bishop, as to ordination of elders, and made as a part of the record of page 21 at the end of the session; no record of reports in the session of 1874; pages 26, 28, local preachers elected to orders without record of recommendation from Quarterly Conference; page 28, J. M. continued in class of second year—no reason why given; persons elected to deacon's orders, and admitted into full connection—no mention of examination by the committee; pages 28, 78, local preachers elected elders—no notice of recommendation or of subscription to doctrine and discipline; missionary appropriations omitted in the record of session 1876; page 82, reports made—no reference to place of record.

West Texas Conference.—1874. Page 4, second day, no person named as occupying the chair; page 11, third day, no person named as occupying the chair; page 11, question 17 called, Who are supernumerary? J. W. C., T. T. S.—it is not said their characters passed, and their relations were fixed by Conference; page 14, fifth day, it is not stated that any person occupied the chair; page 14, question 3, placed for question 30.

1875. Pages 45, 46, question 4, no examination of the class by the Bishop before the Conference; page 46, no vote of Conference ordering doors to be open in examination of character; page 55, question 14, What local preachers are elected elders? Henry M.

was recommended; it is not stated that a certificate had been received of his belief in the doctrines of the Church.

1876. Page 90, no vote to examine character with open doors; page 96, complaint against W. L. R.—committee of investigation appointed; reported a trial necessary; charges and specifications stated in Appendix; first specification admitted, second denied; letter of Mrs. A. to prove it; no cross-examination recorded; he was pronounced guilty; report of committee was rendered declaring him guilty; verdict deposing him from the ministry, and exclusion from the Church. Should minutes of trial thus occupy the space in the Journal, or verdict only?

North Texas Conference.—This Journal is defective. 1874, page 159, question 6 is not recorded, though transfers were received; page 161, under question 2, names of persons are given, but their continuance on trial is only a matter of inference; nothing is said of their examination by committee, or passage of character by Conference. Elders are elected under question 12, but it is not stated they were before the Committee of Examination; page 164, under question 4, nine preachers are named, yet there is no report of their examination on the course of study, no passage of character, no examination by the Bishop before the Conference, no response to the disciplinary question. The same error is repeated at the session of 1875, on page 175; page 167, sundry resolutions and reports adopted and referred to in Appendix, but no Appendix to the Journal; Journal of 1874 not signed by the Secretary.

1875, question 1. Six preachers admitted on trial, but no statement of recommendation by Quarterly Conference, or examination by committee, or where they came from; questions 2, 7, 8, 12, called—names of preachers only given—passage of character and reports of examining committees are not mentioned; under question 10, local preachers elected deacons, yet no recommendations stated—locations, supernumerary and superannuated relations granted, but no questions called, no character passed, so far as the record shows; under question 4, preachers are “elected and ordained deacons,” but it is not said their characters passed, or that they were examined by a committee, or by the Bishops before the Conference—pages 167, 175, 176.

In 1876–7, the Journal shows the same omissions—pages 187, 192, 193, 195, 199, 206, 209, 214. On page 177, a report is adopted in relation to a brother, and referred to in “Appendix,” but no

Appendix is found. This defect again appears, pages 195, 196. Page 198, it is said that J. T., of the Baptist Church, made application to be recognized. What? Page 203, the record shows no closing service; minutes of the last day not read; the Secretary did not sign the Journal. The same defect is seen at the close of the session of 1877. On page 209, preacher is referred to a committee; no cause of action is stated. It is afterward said the committee of ten tried the case and made report. What the report was is not stated, and though there is reference to an Appendix, no Appendix can be found. In election of General Conference delegates, the voting strength of the Conference is not mentioned, nor the number of delegates to which it is entitled. The minutes of the last day not read and approved. Closing service not mentioned. The Secretary did not sign the Journal.

The marginal notes and headings are in good taste; the execution of the work is simply elegant, but the omissions and inaccuracies are so numerous as to bring the Journal below a creditable standard.

North-west Texas Conference.—1874. Pages 239, 240, conflict of minutes; on page 239 E. A. B. is advanced to class of fourth year; on page 240 it is stated he was continued in class of fourth year; page 255, under question 5, is an answer to question 17; on fifth day it is stated Thomas Stanford was in the chair when Conference opened, but it is not said the chair was taken by the Bishop, though we infer it from his "closing the session by the benediction." The statistical and financial reports are recorded between the fourth and fifth days of the session, making no part of either. Minutes of last meeting not read and approved.

Los Angeles Conference.—1874. Sixteenth question called by number, but not recorded; reports not recorded in Appendix, or elsewhere.

1875. Page 87, question 1, one person received, but no statement recorded of any recommendation from a Quarterly Conference, or examination of the proper committee; page 88, two parties continued in given relations, but no passage of character mentioned; page 90, a brother elected local elder, but no mention of Quarterly Conference recommendation, or certificate of belief in our doctrine and discipline.

1876. Page 105, question 2, a brother continued on trial without examination by the committee or passage of character, so far as the record shows. The Secretary says, page 105, questions 3.

4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, all answered in the negative, but makes no record of the questions. Let the questions all be written out in full in their respective numbers, and the answers recorded.

1877. There is nothing to correct this year. The minutes are brief and fair. An improvement is manifest each year.

Columbia Conference.—The Journal shows the following defects:

Sessions of 1874-5-7, all closed without minutes being read at last meeting; page 13, question 6, Who are received by transfer? "John N. R. B. was received from——," no name of Conference given; pages 16 and 17, E. J. D. was charged with falsehood, with five specifications; the verdict is, "The general charge is sustained," without reference to specifications; page 30, question 11, What local preachers are ordained deacons? and no answer given; page 27, question 16, Who are located this year? and no answer given; page 59, question 27, What amount is necessary for superannuated preachers? asked, but not answered.

Pacific Conference.—Pages 146, 147, 148, persons received on trial—no mention made of recommendation or examination; pages 152, 187, 185, local preachers elected to orders, without reference to recommendation or examination; page 182, local deacon received from the M. E. Church, nothing said of recognition of doctrine and discipline, or taking vows; pages 183, 225, 226, 265, persons are advanced to higher classes without notice of their examination; in the twenty-sixth session there is no record of reports of committees, or of statistics; page 266, under question 20, a preacher of the second year called and placed in the fourth year; page 267, bill of charges presented against R. P., but there is no record of his trial, yet on page 282 he is suspended till reprimanded by the Bishop in open Conference. There is no financial report recorded.

This Journal is fair.

Illinois Conference.—Eighth session. Page 190, question 4, A. W. S., it is recorded, was elected elder, but there is no statement to the effect that he was then a deacon; same thing on page 191 in regard to J. F. R.; page 195, Conference met at 3 o'clock P.M., but the minutes of the preceding session do not show that the Conference agreed to have an afternoon session.

In the Appendix the Secretary furnishes a summary of the "disciplinary questions and their respective answers in their numerical order." This is deemed wise, and worthy of all commendation.

Ninth session. On page 224 this item occurs, "The following brethren were called, and their characters approved, viz."—here follow the names of traveling elders, but there is no mention of question 20.

Tenth session. Page 242, report of ordination does not show whether the ministers ordained were traveling preachers or local, or both.

Eleventh session. Page 305, in copying the report of a committee of trial, the Secretary, through mistake, puts the word "expelled" in place of "suspended" (see Appendix, page 337); page 306, question 14, a local preacher was elected elder—the margin says "he was present," but the minutes do not say that he certified his belief in the doctrine and discipline of our Church, either by "note" or otherwise.

Quite a good Journal, but the minutes are a little crowded—in this respect there might be improvement.

Denver Conference.—Pages 9, 11, 12, 78, certain persons are advanced to higher classes, and no mention of examination before the committee; page 13, no record made of religious service; page 45, the trial of J. P. Carter is referred to, but there is no previous record of a committee to investigate or to try; blank space is left for statistics, but there is no record; page 78, under question 20, no mention is made of the examination of character; page 85, by consent the minutes of the last session were not read; page 120, local preachers elected to orders; no mention made of recommendation or examination; page 121, recognition of orders in one coming from another Church—no record of subscription to doctrine and discipline or ordination vow.

The Journal, on the whole, is fair.

German Mission Conference.—Journal not before the committee.

In order that we secure exactness and agreement in our Annual Conference Journals, and recognizing the importance of this to the faithful record of the history of the Church, her protection against wrong-doing, as well as security to individual rights, we recommend that this General Conference hereby direct the attention of the Secretaries of the several Annual Conferences, and of the Annual Conferences themselves, under the supervision of the Bishops, to the strict observance of the rules heretofore enacted by the General Conference, and which we hereby adopt as a part of this report, as follows:

Resolved, 1. That the Secretaries of the several Annual Confer-

ences be, and they are hereby, instructed to record in their Conference Journals respectively all the acts of the Conference of every kind whatever, in the consecutive order of their occurrence, or in an appendix, especially of all complaints, charges, and specifications, with the decisions in all such cases; and also of all resolutions, reports of committees, statistics, memoirs of deceased ministers, and the appointments of preachers, and whatever else enters into and constitutes a complete historical record of each annual session.

2. That the several Annual Conferences be, and they hereby are, instructed to require their Secretaries to conform their Journals to the plan indicated in the preceding resolution.

3. That the Bishops be, and they hereby are, instructed to supervise the Conference Journals; to direct the Secretaries to the requirements of the General Conference as to the manner of keeping their Journals; to supply the Secretaries with copies of their decisions on all questions of law submitted to them in an Annual Conference; and to affix their signatures, in all cases, to the minutes of the Conferences over which they preside.

4. That the Secretaries be requested to keep up a running head from page to page of the Journals, stating the date of the Conference-session.

5. That it is necessary and proper, for the completeness of the Conference record, that the Secretary, in all cases where an approved examination is required by the law of the Discipline on the course of study prescribed by the Bishops as a condition precedent to reception on trial, continuance on trial, election to deacon's and elder's orders, etc., that a statement of the fact of such examination, as also of the recommendation of a Quarterly Conference, where required by law, should form a part of the record.

6. That in the event of the failure of a Bishop of an Annual Conference, in reporting his ordinations to the Conference, to mention who are traveling and who are local preachers, it is the duty of the Secretary to make such a discrimination in his record.

7. That it is the duty of the Secretary to record all the disciplinary questions (stating their numerical notation) under which the business of the Conference is to be transacted, and to record the business under the appropriate questions, and not at random, and without the question duly recorded.

8. That the fact that the application of a local deacon for elder's

orders is duly accompanied by "a note certifying his belief in the doctrine and discipline of our Church," should be recorded by the Secretary.

9. That in all future elections of General Conference delegates there will be a full statement of the aggregate number of clerical and lay votes, as well as the number of delegates to which the Conference is entitled, the number of ballots cast, the number requisite for election, the number of votes given for each respectively, the declaration of election before the Conference by the President of the Conference, with any other fact accompanying—whether the election, in accordance with the Discipline, was by the same body, "in Conference assembled," under the President of the Conference, or in rooms apart of clerical and lay votes respectively, in violation of the Discipline.

10. That the Bishops be, and they are hereby, earnestly requested to call attention of the Secretaries, when reading the minutes of daily sessions for approval of the Conference, to any omissions of names, questions, or facts, or to the insertion of any thing upon the record in violation of the requirements of the Discipline, or in conflict with any resolutions adopted by the General Conference respecting the duties of Secretaries in keeping the Journal of an Annual Conference.

11. That the General Book Agent at Nashville, with the assistance of the Secretary of the General Conference, be instructed to print, on a convenient slip of paper, all of the foregoing resolutions, to be furnished to the Secretaries of Annual Conferences, to be pasted in their Journals for constant reference.

JOHN S. MARTIN, Chairman.

C. G. ANDREWS, Secretary.

The Conference ordered the General Minutes of 1876 and 1877 to be stereotyped and published as soon as convenient.

It was stated that the venerable Lovick Pierce was unable to preach before the Conference last night, according to appointment, and that he was too feeble to be present this morning. A communication from him was presented, read, received, and ordered to be printed in the *Daily Christian Advocate*.

The order of the day was taken up, being Report No. 7 on Itinerancy, which was read.

H. V. Philpott moved to amend by striking out the last clause of the report, and substitute the language now in the Discipline.

Frank Richardson moved, as a substitute, to strike out 36 and insert 56, in clause 1, Answer 1.

On motion of A. R. Winfield, this substitute was laid on the table.

On motion of A. R. Winfield, the amendment was laid on the table.

E. E. Wiley moved to amend by reducing the ratio of representation one-half, and that no Conference shall be deprived the privilege of two delegates.

This amendment, on motion of S. X. Hall, was laid on the table.

A. T. Fielder moved the previous question—the call was sustained—the question was put, and the vote stood, yeas 140, nays 25.

The report was adopted by a vote of 157 yeas, 23 nays.

On motion of J. B. McFerrin, the Secretary was instructed to send this report to each Annual Conference at its next session, and to furnish each of the Bishops with a copy of the same, for their action.

REPORT NO. 7 ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy have had under very careful consideration the many papers from various sources, in regard to the composition and basis of representation of a General Conference, and report the following as the result of their deliberations:

1. They recommend that Answers 1 and 2 to Question 1, Section 1, Chapter II., pages 32 and 33, of the Discipline, be so amended as to read as follows, viz.:

Ans. 1. The General Conference shall be composed of *one* clerical member for every *thirty-six* members of each Annual Conference, and an equal number of lay members. Of the lay members from an Annual Conference, one may be a local preacher.

The clerical representatives shall be elected by the clerical members of the Annual Conference: *provided*, that such representatives shall have been traveling preachers at least four calendar years next preceding their election, and are in full connection with an Annual Conference when elected, and also at the time of holding the General Conference. The lay representatives shall be elected by the lay members of the Annual Conference: *provided*, that such representatives be twenty-five years of age, and shall have been members of our Church for at least six calendar years next preceding the time of their election, and also at the time of holding the General Conference.

2. An Annual Conference, entitled under the second Restrictive Rule to one ministerial delegate, shall not be denied the privilege of one lay delegate, and he may be a local preacher.

The committee also recommend that the second Restrictive Rule in the Discipline, page 36, be so amended as to read as follows, viz.:

2. They shall not allow of more than one representative for every eighteen members of the Annual Conference, nor allow of a less number than one for every sixty: *provided, nevertheless*, that when there shall be in any Annual Conference a fraction of two-thirds the number which shall be fixed for the ratio of representation, such Annual Conference shall be entitled to an additional delegate for such fraction: *and provided*, also, that no Conference shall be denied the privilege of two delegates, one clerical and one lay.

JOHN S. MARTIN, Chairman.

C. G. ANDREWS, Secretary.

Bishop Kavanaugh took the chair.

Report No. 1 on Sunday-Schools was taken up, and adopted by items.

L. S. Burkhead moved to reconsider item 5. This motion failed. The report was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

Your committee have considered several memorials and resolutions submitted for their examination, and report their concurrence in, and recommend the adoption of the following:

1. The memorial from the Kentucky Conference on the annual election of Sunday-school superintendents by the Quarterly Conference, signed by H. P. Walker and S. X. Hall, to add after the word Sunday-schools, on page 54, Chapter II., Section 4, first line at the top of the page, the following words: "At the fourth Quarterly Conference of each year." The entire answer, No. 2 to Question 4, will then read thus: "To superintend the interests of Sunday-schools and the instruction of children, and to elect superintendents of Sunday-schools at the fourth Quarterly Conference of each year, on nomination of the preacher in charge."

2. Also the following resolution, signed by E. A. Yates and W. H. N. Magruder:

Resolved, That our Sunday-school Editor be, and he is hereby, instructed to embrace in the present system, known as the "International Lessons," so much of our catechisms as will, in his judg-

ment, furnish proper instruction upon the *distinctive doctrines and discipline* of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

3. Also the resolution of J. O. A. Clark and J. W. Hinton, proposing an addition to the caption of Chapter IV., Section 2, page 113, so that the entire caption shall read thus: "Of the children of the Church. Things especially to be noticed in the written report of the preacher in charge, to the Quarterly Conference, on the pastoral instruction of children."

4. Also the resolution signed by P. P. Ellis and T. M. Cobb, on developing a greater missionary spirit among the Sunday-school pupils, and that the following words be inserted on page 122, as the sixth answer to the first question of Chapter V., Section 5, which will then so read: "6. Let every Sunday-school, so far as practicable, be organized into a missionary society, auxiliary to the Annual Conference Missionary Board."

Respectfully submitted.

C. K. MARSHALL, Chairman.

P. GALLAGHER, Secretary.

Report No. 1 on the Bible Cause was taken up and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 1 ON THE BIBLE CAUSE.

Your committee has had under consideration the resolution of W. A. McCarty and R. A. Hardaway, on reporting collections for the American Bible Society, and respectfully recommend concurrence, and the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That Answer 14, Section 4, Chapter III., page 78, of the Discipline, be amended by adding to it the following: "Also the amount of contributions received by him for the American Bible Society," so that the clause, as amended, will read as follows: "And to report to the Conference the amount raised during the year within the bounds of his charge for these several interests; also the amount of contributions received by him for the American Bible Society."

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Book Editor to publish the contributions to the American Bible Society, thus reported, in a column of the tabulated statistics in the General Minutes.

H. F. JOHNSON, Chairman.

J. B. McFerrin called for the announcement of the Book Committee.

The Committee on Nominations read their report.

On motion of W. L. Nugent, the action was reconsidered by which the number nine was fixed, and the number was settled at

thirteen—nine of whom shall be laymen, and four ministers—of this number nine are to reside in or near Nashville, and the Secretary was instructed to conform the constitution to these changes.

The Book Committee is constituted as follows:

NAMES OF THE BOOK COMMITTEE.

Dempsey Weaver, James Whitworth, T. D. Fite, Nathaniel Baxter, jr., Dr. William Morrow, Judge E. H. East, Dr. William H. Morgan, Rev. R. K. Hargrove, Rev. R. A. Young, Nashville, Tenn.; John A. Carter, Louisville, Ky.; S. H. Dunscomb, Memphis, Tenn.; Rev. A. G. Haygood, Oxford, Ga.; Rev. A. S. Andrews, Montgomery, Ala.

On motion of A. R. Winfield, the report of the committee on nomination of members of the Board of Missions was reconsidered.

J. C. Simmons resigned as a member, and J. B. McFerrin was put in his place. R. F. Johnson was substituted by E. R. Hendrix.

On motion of J. Hogan, the Conference proceeded to vote for the place of holding the next session of the General Conference.

Waco, Texas, St. Louis, Mo., and Nashville, Tenn., were put in nomination.

Waco received 48 votes, St. Louis 21.

On motion, Nashville was chosen by a unanimous vote.

The following resolution was then presented, read, and adopted:

Whereas, the financial embarrassment of the Southern Methodist Church in Washington City has not been relieved since the session of the General Conference in 1874; and whereas, the necessity for a well-sustained and truly representative Church at the capital of the United States is more imperative now than ever before; therefore,

Resolved, That we renew the recommendation, and reindorse the appeal made by the Bishops in 1874, in behalf of the Southern Methodist Church in Washington City.

W. P. HARRISON,
J. B. WILSON.

On motion of D. C. Kelley, the first article of the Constitution of the Board of Missions was amended so as to change seventeen to nineteen—the rule was suspended to allow of immediate action—a motion to lay on the table not prevailing.

J. C. Simmons, of the Pacific Conference, and R. K. Hargrove,

of the Tennessee Conference, were duly elected members of the Board.

The following elections of editors of Conference papers were announced:

D. R. McAnally, editor of *St. Louis Christian Advocate*; W. C. Johnson, editor of *Western Methodist*; I. G. John, editor of *Texas Christian Advocate*; Linus Parker, editor of *New Orleans Christian Advocate*; F. M. Kennedy, editor of *Southern Christian Advocate*; W. B. Parsons, editor of *Pacific Methodist*, San Francisco, Cal.; Z. Meek, editor of *Central Methodist*; A. G. Haygood, editor of *Wesleyan Christian Advocate*; J. W. Burke, assistant; R. N. Price and J. A. Lyons, editors of *Holston Methodist*; J. J. Lafferty, editor of *Richmond Christian Advocate*.

Report No. 8 on Revisal was taken up, to complete action.

The first item was amended by striking out "non," and with the second item, adopted May 15. The remainder was taken by items, and adopted. The report as a whole is as follows:

REPORT NO. 8 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to present, as Report No. 8, the result of their deliberations with reference to the following papers submitted to their consideration, viz.:

1. Memorials from Wm. Baker, T. L. Boswell, and Wm. F. Harris, asking the restoration to its former place in the Discipline of the question, "Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life?" Concurrence.

2. Resolution signed by H. P. Walker, J. W. Fitch, and C. W. Miller, suggesting additional questions in business of the Annual Conference in relation to the number and condition of the schools and colleges under our care, and the committees of examination on the course of study. Non-concurrence.

3. Resolution of T. L. Mellen and W. H. Watkins, suggesting insertion of a question in Annual Conference business in relation to support and traveling expenses of the Bishops. Your committee respectfully recommend non-concurrence, the same being, in their judgment, sufficiently provided for in Chapter IX., Section 3, pages 158, 159, of the book of Discipline.

4. A series of papers proposing sundry changes in the Discipline, and signed by S. Black and T. S. Wade, have been considered, with the following result: They recommend non-concurrence in the proposed change of Answer 7 to Question 4, Section 4, Chap

ter V., page 55 of the Discipline, in reference to the election of delegates to Annual Conference, and Sunday-school superintendent. Non-concurrence in proposed change of Section 14, Chapter VIII., pages 102, 103, in reference to class-meetings. Non-concurrence in the proposed transposition of Section 1, Chapter IV., page 111, to Section 4, Chapter III., page 75 of the Discipline. Non-concurrence in proposed transposition of Sections 2, 3, 4, Chapter XIII., pages 201-220, to page 114.

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

Report No. 4 on Boundaries was taken up and read, as follows:

REPORT NO. 4 ON BOUNDARIES.

1. Your committee have carefully considered the petition of J. W. Compton, on behalf of the Walla-Walla District, Columbia Conference, praying for a division of the Columbia Conference. The committee recommend that the Conference be allowed to divide during the next quadrennial, if in their godly judgment they think it best.

2. A petition from the Official Boards of the M. E. Church, South, in the city of St. Louis, asking for the reuniting of the St. Louis and South-west Missouri Conferences. Also a petition from the delegation of the South-west Missouri Conference, opposing the union. The committee recommend that they be allowed to reunite, provided it can be effected by mutual coöperation of the Conferences, *ad interim*.

3. The memorial of the Arkansas Conference, praying for a certain boundary line between the Arkansas and White River Conferences, has been before the committee, and they recommend non-concurrence.

4. A resolution signed by J. J. Roberts and H. C. Allen, concerning the boundary between the Arkansas and White River Conferences, has been considered. The committee recommend that all after "Little Red River," in the Discipline, on page 315, paragraph 25, be stricken out, and the following be inserted: "Thence to the mouth of Palarm Creek, on the Arkansas River, so as to include all the present boundary lines of Quitman and Mt. Vernon Circuits; thence to the south-east corner of Perry county; thence west by the south boundary lines of Perry, Yell, and Scott counties, to the State line; thence with the State line to the beginning."

5. A resolution signed by Frank Richardson, James P. Kelly, and others, requesting a change in the boundary line between the Tennessee and Holston Conferences, has been considered by your committee, and they recommend that no change be made.

W. S. BLACK, Chairman.

S. X. HALL, Secretary.

Item 1 was read, and not adopted—the remainder of the report was adopted.

Report No. 5 on Boundaries was taken up.

Item 1 was read.

J. D. Cameron moved to strike out the last line of first paragraph, viz., “that no change be made,” and insert the following at the conclusion of first paragraph on page 313 of the Discipline: “And that portion of Pickens county, Alabama, lying west of the Tombigbee River.”

A motion of S. X. Hall, to lay the amendment on the table, did not prevail.

A. R. Winfield moved the previous question—the call was sustained—the question was put—the amendment was adopted—yeas 97, nays 59.

Item 2 was read and adopted.

Item 3 was read and adopted.

The report, as amended, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 5 ON BOUNDARIES.

1. A memorial from the North Mississippi Conference, and a petition from citizens of said Conference; also, a memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Tuscaloosa Station and North Port Circuit, and a memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Carrollton Circuit, North Alabama Conference, concerning the boundary line between the North Mississippi and North Alabama Conferences, have been carefully considered by the committee, and we respectfully recommend that the following be inserted at the conclusion of the first paragraph on page 313 of the Discipline: “And that portion of Pickens county, Alabama, lying west of the Tombigbee River.”

2. A resolution signed by H. S. Thrall and J. S. Gillett, requesting the readjustment of the boundary between the West Texas and the North-west Texas Conferences, has been considered by the committee, and they recommend that these words in the Discipline, on page 318, paragraph 31, “thence due west to the San

Antonio and Fort Mason road; thence with said road to Fort Mason; thence due north to the Colorado River; thence up said river with its meanderings to the Big Spring;" be stricken out, and the following be inserted: "Thence south to the south-east corner of Burnett county; thence west with the line of said county to the south-west corner of Llano; thence north to the south-west corner of San Saba; thence with the western line of said county to the Colorado River; thence along the Colorado River to the line between Tom Green and Mitchell counties; thence along the south line of Mitchell, Howard, Martin, and Andrews counties to New Mexico."

3. Your committee have considered a resolution signed by L. S. Reed and W. S. Black, concerning Dare Circuit, now supplied by preachers from the Virginia Conference. They have examined the map and the boundary between the Virginia and North Carolina Conferences, and have decided that said circuit is a part of the North Carolina Conference, and should be so regarded by both Conferences.

W. S. BLACK, Chairman.

S. X. HALL, Secretary.

Report No. 2 on Temperance was taken up, as follows:

REPORT NO. 2 ON TEMPERANCE.

1. Your committee on the subject of temperance would respectfully report that we have carefully examined the papers referred to us by your body, viz., one signed by P. P. Ellis and John Y. Murry, also one signed by J. S. Johnson, A. B. Stark, and G. W. Beard. Each of these papers proposes a change in our General Rules on this subject, and as the General Conference of 1874 submitted this question to the several Annual Conferences, resulting in no change being made, and by reason of other papers in our hands, which fully explain our position as a Church, your committee would recommend non-concurrence in these two papers.

2. Your committee have also carefully considered the papers, one signed by A. R. Winfield and R. Lane, the other signed by J. Y. Murry, J. B. Streater, and T. S. Wade, each in the form of preamble and resolutions, and substantially the same, viz.:

"Whereas, The subject of temperance is at this time specially agitated throughout the length and breadth of our common country; and whereas, its acceptance and practice by the people everywhere is an end devoutly to be prayed for, as the fruits thereof are 'on earth peace, good-will toward men;' and whereas,

temperance is a virtue embodied in the character and life of Christianity, and the Church having the right and privilege to give out 'certain sounds' on this, as on other virtues; therefore, be it

"Resolved, by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, That to make, buy, sell, or use intoxicating liquors, as a beverage, is a violation of the professed Christian's obligation, and any one thus falling into error, should be duly admonished, warned, and dealt with, as directed by the Bible and our book of Discipline.

"Resolved, That this preamble and resolution be published in all our Church papers."

Your committee recommend concurrence in this preamble and resolutions.

In closing this report, your committee desire to say a few words. The Church of God is the true and perfect temperance society. The various special temperance organizations may be used by Christian men as a workshop for the Church. The Church is the light of the world, and this light can never shine successfully in the person of a Church-member acting as a buyer or seller of intoxicating liquors, to be used as a beverage, whether it be in the wholesale store, the drug-store, or the dram-shop.

The truth remains that "wine is a mocker"—see Prov. xx. 1. "Look not thou upon the wine," for "at the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder"—Prov. xxiii. 31, 32. "Pure religion" is not only to visit the fatherless and widows in their afflictions, but to keep ourselves "unspotted from the world"—James i. 27. "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak"—Rom. xiv. 21.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. P. ELLIS, Chairman.

Item 1 was read and adopted.

Item 2 was read.

A motion to lay it on the table did not prevail—yeas 78, nays 98.

R. K. Hargrove moved non-concurrence—this motion was laid on the table.

A. G. Haygood moved to recommit the report.

A motion by A. R. Winfield to lay this on the table did not prevail.

On motion of W. W. Jones, the subject was indefinitely postponed—yeas 117, nays 70.

A beautiful episode then took place. Bishop Pierce delivered an affecting address (with a copy of the Bible presented by the Conference to each) to the six little boys who acted as diligent and courteous pages during the session of the General Conference.

A. R. Winfield, on behalf of the pages, made a suitable response.

Bishop Wightman announced that Mrs. Governor Colquitt will give a reception to the General Conference at the Executive Mansion, at 8 o'clock this evening.

Report No. 3 on Sunday-schools was taken up and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 3 ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The committee have considered the resolution signed by T. J. Magruder and Samuel Rodgers, in relation to encouraging Sunday-school children to attend upon public worship, and recommend the following: In Chap. V., Sec. 5, "On Sunday-schools," page 122, after the words "to visit the Sunday-schools as often as practicable," in the third line from the bottom, add "to secure, as far as possible, with the aid of officers and teachers and parents, the regular attendance of the scholars upon divine service."

Respectfully submitted.

C. K. MARSHALL, Chairman.

P. GALLAGHER, Secretary.

Report No. 4 on Sunday-schools was taken up and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 4 ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

1. Your sub-committee, to whom was referred the resolution of W. F. Cook and W. H. Potter, suggesting the formation of a Connectional Sunday-school Union, together with the resolution signed J. L. Parkes, N. T. Lupton, J. B. West, and W. Burr, requesting the Committee on Sunday schools to inquire into the "expediency of constituting a Sunday-school Board," beg to recommend the following, to wit: That Ans. 4 in Sec. 5, Chap. V., page 124, of the Discipline, be altered by striking out the word "Secretary," in the fifth line of answer 4, and inserting the word "Editor" in lieu thereof, so that the answer shall read as follows: "4. Each Annual Conference shall elect a Corresponding Secretary, to represent the Sunday-school interests of that Conference to the Sunday-school Editor, elected by the General Conference."

2. That after paragraph 4 of same chapter and section another paragraph be inserted, to be numbered 5, to read as follows: "5. The General Conference shall elect a committee of five, of which the Sunday-school Editor shall be chairman, who, with the Book Agent, shall provide for the publication of Sunday-school books and periodicals, and have the general supervision of our Sunday-school interests, with power to appoint a Secretary if it is deemed necessary."

Respectfully submitted.

C. K. MARSHALL, Chairman.

P. GALLAGHER, Secretary.

The Chair appointed the following to nominate the committee called for in item 1 of the foregoing report, to wit: W. Burr, of Tennessee Conference; S. Rodgers, of Baltimore Conference; M. S. Andrews, of Alabama Conference; R. H. Mahon, of Memphis Conference; and A. M. Chrietzberg, of South Carolina Conference.

Report No. 5 on Sunday-schools was taken up and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 5 ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

Your committee, to whom was referred the resolution inquiring into the expediency of preparing "a form of service" for the opening of the Sabbath-schools, beg leave to report that, after a most exhaustive investigation and discussion, they recommend non-concurrence therein, deeming the provisions already existing in forms or usages ample for the ends in view.

Respectfully submitted.

C. K. MARSHALL, Chairman.

P. GALLAGHER, Secretary.

Report No. 3 on Itinerancy was taken up and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 3 ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy have considered a resolution signed by W. A. Tarwater, J. D. Vincil, and W. W. Jones, providing for the insertion in the Discipline of the question, "Are you in debt so as to embarrass you?" and do concur with the resolution; and respectfully recommend that the question, "Are you in debt so as to embarrass you?" be inserted immediately after the question, "Will you recommend fasting or abstinence both by precept and example?" which occurs in the answer to question 2, "What method do we use in admitting a preacher into full connection at Conference?" Sec. 6, Chap. III., page 83, Discipline.

JOHN S. MARTIN, Chairman.

C. G. ANDREWS, Secretary.

Report No. 12 on Finance was taken up and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 12 ON FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance have considered a resolution signed by J. D. Giddings, R. Alexander, and I. G. John, "in regard to the contraction of debts and creating liens upon the property of the Church, in connection with any of our churches, parsonages, institutions of learning, etc., and whether it is advisable and practicable to establish a permanent rule or law prohibiting the trustees of Church-property from contracting debts and creating liens upon such property," and instructed me to report:

1. Your committee recommend that in the Discipline, Chapter XI., Section 1, Answer 2, next to last line in answer, the words "or subscribed" be stricken out, and that the latter part of said section, after semicolon, shall read, "and three-fourths of the money, according to such estimate, shall be secured before any such building shall be commenced."

2. Your committee have instructed me farther to report that they recommended that a new section, to be numbered "Section 5, on creating liens upon Church-property," be added to Chapter XI. of the Discipline, at the end of the chapter, as follows: "Section 5, on creating liens upon Church-property. No person or persons, or Board of Trustees, shall have authority to make or create any mortgage or other contract lien upon Church-property."

R. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

Report No. 9 on Revisal was taken up.

Item 1 was adopted.

Item 2 was read, and adopted, yeas 83, nays 51.

Item 3 was read, the words "or subscribed" were stricken out, and the item was adopted.

Report No. 9 was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 9 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to present as their report No. 9:

1. That they have considered a resolution signed by C. G. Andrews and H. F. Johnson, proposing to amend Answer 1 to Question 7, Section 2, Chapter II., page 45, of the Discipline, so that Annual Conferences shall sit with open doors without a vote ordering it, and recommend concurrence, and that said answer be

stricken out and the following inserted in its place: "*Ans. 1.* The Conference shall proceed with open doors, unless by vote it orders otherwise."

2. With reference to a memorial from the New Orleans District Conference in regard to appointment of class-leaders, your committee recommend that Answer 2, Section 4, Chapter III., page 75, of the Discipline, be amended by inserting "annually" after the word "leaders," so that it will read: "*Ans. 2.* To appoint all the leaders annually, and change them when he sees it necessary."

3. Respecting a resolution signed J. S. Key, J. B. McGehee, and others, asking provision against undue multiplication of churches, your committee recommend concurrence, and that the following proviso be added to the Discipline, Chapter XI., Section 1, Question 1, Answer 2, pages 172, 173: "*provided*, however, that no house of worship shall be built unless the authority of the Quarterly Conference shall first have been obtained;" so that the answer shall read: "In order more effectually to prevent our people from contracting debts which they are not able to discharge, it shall be the duty of the Quarterly Conference of every circuit and station, where it is contemplated to build a house or houses of worship, to secure the ground on which such house or houses are to be built, according to our deed of settlement, which deed must be legally executed; and also, said Quarterly Conference shall appoint a judicious committee of at least three members of our Church, who shall form an estimate of the amount necessary to build; and three-fourths of the money according to such estimate shall be secured before any such building shall be commenced: *provided*, however, that no house of worship shall be built unless the authority of the Quarterly Conference shall first have been obtained."

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

The names of the Committee on Sunday-schools were announced, as follows: N. T. Lupton, J. P. McFerrin, W. A. McCarthy, Nashville, Tenn.; J. H. Carlisle, Spartanburg, S. C.; T. J. Magruder, Baltimore, Md. They were elected.

Report No. 10 on Revisal was taken up and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 10 ON REVISAL.

Having carefully considered sundry papers referred to them, your committee report as follows:

1. With the paper signed by W. S. Johnson and G. W. Hayes, and asking that Answer 3, Section 5, page 61 of the Discipline, be amended by adding after the words "twelve months," "and a list of such names shall be kept, but not registered as members," we respectfully recommend non-concurrence.

2. With the paper signed by Thomas O. Summers and A. G. Haygood, asking that the word "of" be restored in the heading of Article V. of the Twenty-five Articles, we recommend concurrence, so that the heading shall read, "Of the sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures for salvation."

3. With the paper signed by R. K. Hargrove and O. R. Blue, asking an addition to Answer 2, Section 5, Chapter II., page 61, we concur. The whole of Answer 2 will then read thus: "A Secretary shall be elected annually, at the first meeting after the session of the Annual Conference. He shall make a record of the proceedings, and shall keep in a book, and return to the Quarterly Conference, all the statistics which the Discipline requires to be reported to an Annual Conference. He shall enter in chronological order, in a permanent register, the full names of all who shall join the Church, with the time and manner of the reception and disposal of each, distinguishing between local elders, deacons, and preachers, white persons, colored persons, and Indians; and shall make a permanent record of all the baptisms and marriages within the congregation; and shall furnish the pastor with an alphabetical roll of the Church."

4. With the paper signed by John Barcroft and H. W. Foote, asking that sundry items of business be transferred from the Quarterly to the District Conference, we respectfully recommend non-concurrence, in conformity to a report already made by us, and adopted by the Conference.

5. With the paper signed by Colin Murchison and B. R. Hester, in reference to Trustees, we recommend concurrence. As amended, Answer 1, Question 2, Section 16, Chapter III., page 109, will read thus: "Trustees of our parsonages or churches must be at least twenty-one years of age, and must all be members of our Church, where proper persons can be had, otherwise one-third of each board may be elected from without." And answer to Question 1, Section 4, Chapter II., page 52, will read: "All the traveling and local preachers, including superannuated preachers residing within the circuit or station (whether without or within the limits of the Annual Conferences to which they belong), with the exhort-

ers, stewards, trustees, who are members of the Church, and class-leaders, of the respective circuits, stations, missions, together with the superintendents of Sunday-schools, who are members of the Church, and secretaries of Church Conferences, and none others."

6. With the memorial from the North Carolina Conference, asking "to revise and enlarge the Discipline by appending to each of the Twenty-five Articles the Scripture proof, the same either in full quotations, or by marginal references to the books, chapters, and verses," we respectfully recommend non-concurrence.

7. In reference to the paper signed by S. Black and J. S. Medley, asking that "this General Conference define in unmistakable language what is to be understood by the Constitution of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South," your committee think no action necessary.

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

A motion to meet at 2:30 P.M. was voted down.

Bishop Pierce announced that the Rev. J. O. A. Clark was appointed Agent of the Wesley Monumental Church in Savannah.

Conference then adjourned with the doxology, and benediction by the Secretary.

Friday Afternoon, May 24, 1878.

Conference met at the appointed hour, Bishop Wightman in the chair.

C. K. Marshall conducted divine service.

The Minutes were read and approved.

W. F. Cook, clerical delegate, North Georgia Conference, asked and obtained leave of absence, and H. H. Parks, reserve, took his place.

A motion to suspend the order to allow of reconsideration of Report No. 3 on Boundaries did not prevail.

• Report No. 11 on Revisal was taken up and read, as follows:

REPORT NO. 11 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal, to whom was referred sundry resolutions, asking for a change of the Ritual for the baptism of infants and adults, signed by C. W. Miller, J. W. Fitch, A. H. Thomas, S. Black, and others, have had the same under serious consideration, and as the result of their deliberations, beg leave

to report that, inasmuch as they all substantially ask for the same changes, we report concurrence in the following items:

1. Strike out on page 201, Sec. 2, Chap. XIII., the following: "all men are conceived and born in sin, and that our Saviour Christ saith, Except a man be born of water, and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God," and insert, "our Saviour hath taught us that little children are the subjects of his kingdom; and forasmuch as all are in need of the sanctifying influences of the Holy Spirit, of which Christian baptism is the emblem, and also the sign of covenant relation; and forasmuch as our Lord and Master hath commanded his ministers to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Also, on same page, strike out the word "mercy" and insert the word "grace," and strike out the words "he may be" and insert "being," so that the whole will read: "Dearly beloved, forasmuch as our Saviour hath taught us that little children are the subjects of his kingdom; and forasmuch as all are in need of the sanctifying influences of the Holy Spirit, of which Christian baptism is the emblem, and also the sign of covenant relation; and forasmuch as our Lord and Master hath commanded his ministers to go and disciple all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous grace he will grant to *this child* that which by nature *he* cannot have: that being baptized with water and the Holy Ghost, and received into Christ's holy Church, *he* may be made a *lively member* of the same."

2. In the prayer for infants on page 202, Sec. 2, Chap. XIII., we recommend to strike out the words "wash *him* and sanctify *him* with the Holy Ghost; that *he* being delivered from thy wrath may be received into the ark of Christ's Church," and insert the following: "and sanctify *him* with thy Holy Spirit, that *he* being received into thy Church," so that it shall read as follows: "Almighty and everlasting God, we beseech thee for thine infinite mercies, that thou wilt look upon *this child*, and sanctify *him* with thy Holy Spirit, that *he* being received into thy Church, and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, may so pass the waves of this troublesome world that finally *he* may come to the land of everlasting life, there to reign with thee, world without end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

3. In the prayer on page 204, Sec. 2, Chap. XIII., strike out the words, "out of his most precious side both water and blood," and substitute the words "his most precious blood," so that it shall read as follows: "Almighty, ever-living God, whose most dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed his most precious blood, and gave commandment to his disciples, that they should go teach all nations, and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: regard, we beseech thee, the supplications of thy congregation; and grant that *this child*, now to be baptized, may receive the fullness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and elect children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

4. In the office of adult baptism, pages 207, 208, Sec. 3, Chap. XIII., strike out the whole of the exhortation, and substitute the following in its place: "Dearly beloved, forasmuch as all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God, and need the sanctifying influences of the Holy Spirit, of which Christian baptism is the emblem, and that our Saviour Christ saith, Except a man be born again, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God: I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous goodness he will grant to *this person* that which by nature *he* cannot have: that being baptized with water and the Holy Ghost, and received into Christ's holy Church, *he* may be made a lively member of the same."

5. On page 214, Sec. 3, Chap. XIII., in the last prayer, strike out the words, "did shed out of his most precious side both water and blood," and substitute the words "did shed his precious blood," so that the whole shall read as follows: "Almighty, ever-living God, whose most dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed his most precious blood; and gave commandment to his disciples, that they go teach all nations, and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: regard, we beseech thee, the supplications of this congregation; and grant that *this person*, now to be baptized, may receive the fullness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and elect children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

6. A resolution signed by W. Mooney, and others, asking changes of the Discipline, on page 202, Sec. 2, Chap. XIII., just such as we have recommended for your adoption in the foregoing

portion of this report, is returned to the Conference, and we ask to be released from its farther consideration.

All of which is respectfully submitted for your adoption.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

Item 1, on motion of A. G. Haygood, was indefinitely postponed.

Item 2, on motion of A. R. Winfield, was indefinitely postponed.

The farther consideration of the report was indefinitely postponed.

Report No. 12 on Revisal was taken up.

Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, were read and adopted.

On motion of D. C. Kelley, the remainder was indefinitely postponed.

REPORT NO. 12 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal respectfully offer the following as Report No. 12:

1. In regard to the memorial of the Baltimore Conference, asking a revision of Discipline, with a view of a more stringent rule in the readmission of members who have been expelled, the committee recommend non-concurrence.

2. A resolution signed Paul Whitehead and J. E. Edwards, requesting the addition of certain words to Chap. VII., Sec. 1, paragraph 5, and also the same change in Chap. VII., Sec. 3, paragraph 5, in regard to the reception into the Church of expelled ministers and members, is disapproved, and for the reason that no farther legislation is deemed necessary, the law at present being sufficiently precise and comprehensive.

3. The committee having considered a resolution signed H. V. Philpott and J. D. Giddings, asking a change in Discipline in regard to duties of Presiding Elders, the resolution proposing to insert the words "to be present, if practicable, at two of the Quarterly Conferences during the year," recommend non-concurrence.

4. The resolution of S. S. Bryant and L. S. Burkhead, proposing to have the General Rules read in Church Conference instead of in each congregation, is not approved, and the committee recommend non-concurrence.

5. A second resolution from the same (in same paper), proposing a change of Discipline, page 50, Ques. 1, Ans. 3, with a view of making the Presiding Elder, instead of the Bishop, the President

of the District Conference, is disapproved, and non-concurrence is recommended.

6. The committee recommend non-concurrence in regard to the resolution of the North Carolina Conference, requiring pastors to report to the Annual Conference the number of accessions during the year.

7. The paper signed J. W. Rush and W. A. McCarty, asking the restoration of the question, "Are you in debt?" to its proper place in Discipline, to be put in the examination of preachers applying for membership in full connection, is not approved, and the committee advise non-concurrence.

8. The resolution of J. S. Gillett and D. H. Connally, proposing to make a law for the reception of members from the M. E. Church on a presentation of a certificate, is returned, with the recommendation that no additional legislation is necessary.

9. A resolution from J. D. Giddings and J. C. C. Winch, asking the General Conference to establish a judiciary committee of fifteen, etc., is not approved—non-concurrence is recommended.

10. A resolution signed A. H. Thomas and T. L. Boswell, seeking a change in Discipline which shall restrict the term of service of Presiding Elders, is disapproved, and non-concurrence recommended.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

Report No. 13 on Finance was taken up and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 13 ON FINANCE.

Your Finance Committee, to whom was referred a resolution signed by W. S. Johnson and A. R. Winfield, requesting your committee to consider the expediency of providing for a financial report to cover the time between the fourth Quarterly Conference and the session of the Annual Conference, have duly considered the same, and have instructed me to report that they do not consider that there is any legislation required on the subject.

R. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

A motion to suspend the order of business to allow certain reports to be taken up did not prevail.

Report on the Hymn-book was taken up, and indefinitely postponed. It is as follows:

REPORT ON THE HYMN-BOOK.

Your committee, to whom was referred the subject of a new and abridged Hymn-book, after mature reflection, have come to the following conclusions, and herewith report:

That our publishing interests at the present time do not justify the undertaking of such an enterprise, however desirable. Besides, measures have been taken with a view to the assembling, at an early period, of an Ecumenical Council, to be composed of representatives of all the families of Methodism in the world. Steps have also been initiated by which the subject of a Hymn-book adapted for universal use in all branches of the Church will be brought prominently before that General Council. Looking hopefully for the accomplishment of so desirable an object, we deem it more economical and discreet to defer any action on the matter for the present. But, in view of the fact that a demand exists for a small Hymn-book, for social, prayer, and minor meetings, your committee recommend the compilation and publication, at the earliest day practicable, of such a book, and that a committee of nine be appointed by the Bishops to compile and prepare such a volume, in a cheap form, for publication. We think these views cover all the essential features of the resolutions submitted to us from the Missouri Conference, and signed by John D. Vincil; also one signed by C. K. Marshall and T. L. Mellen; also one signed by S. W. Moore and W. W. Bennett; also one signed by W. H. Foster and W. H. N. Magruder.

We have also carefully examined the resolution signed by W. H. Watkins and C. G. Andrews, inquiring into the propriety of publishing our existing forms of baptism and the reception of members into the Church in all the editions of our Hymn-book hereafter, and recommend the adoption of the plan, and that the Book Editor be so instructed, and the committee discharged.

C. K. MARSHALL, Chairman.

Jos. S. KEY, Secretary.

Report No. 14 on Finance was taken up, and indefinitely postponed. It is as follows:

REPORT NO. 14 ON FINANCE.

Your committee, to whom were referred a resolution signed by O. A. Darby and H. A. C. Walker, on financial and statistical blanks, have considered the same, and have examined the accompanying samples of blanks, and because a very superior form of

blanks for this purpose has been stereotyped by our Publishing House, and their practicability has sustained the test of experience, have instructed me to report that they do not feel called upon to recommend the blanks furnished.

R. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

Report No. 13 on Revisal was taken up, as follows:

REPORT NO. 13 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal have carefully considered the several papers referred from J. W. Hinton, J. S. Key, J. B. McGehee, J. E. Evans, and others, relating to the trial and appeal of traveling preachers, and beg leave to report:

The subject was presented, and has been considered in all its aspects, with a view of harmonizing the Constitution and the law, the design of the committee being to have a coherent system of trial and appeals adapted to all the ends of justice, mercy, and truth, in our Church polity.

The committee call attention to the fifth Restrictive Article as the basis and beginning of such a system. This Article says: "They shall not do away the privilege of our ministers or preachers of *trial* by a *committee*, and of *appeal*." [Fifth Restrictive Article, page 37 Discipline.] This is *constitutional* law, and cannot be subverted, directly or indirectly, by any *statutory* provisions in conflict with its letter and spirit. First, it guarantees the right of trial by a *committee*, in contradistinction to trial before a whole Conference. The existing law of trial conforms to this constitutional requisition, but it needs some extension to more fully meet the demands of a wise administration. Secondly, the right of appeal is not denied in terms of existing law, but it is only allowed to be exercised in a way to defeat practically its proper design, and, therefore, is in conflict with the spirit of the Constitution, which is to give a condemned minister a speedy remedy for the wrong inflicted upon him, if his condemnation was unjust. He can (as the law now stands) only appeal to the General Conference, which meets quadrennially, and his appeal cannot be heard and decided, often, until years have passed. Your committee think that an appeal which may be delayed for four years is virtually denied, and all its ends defeated. The appellant must often linger in suspense, and under degradation, ruined financially by the loss of employment, blasted in reputation beyond

recovery, and moreover he is liable to die covered with the odium of crimes and penalties which a speedy appeal might avert. Such delay is not in accord with the right of appeal as exercised by local preachers and lay members of the Church, these classes of our people having a speedy redress of their wrongs in appellate courts. Why should this large and prominent class—itinerant preachers—be subjected to such unnecessary delay?

Again, the distance and expense incidental to an appeal to the General Conference greatly add to the difficulties in the application of the law of appeal, as it now exists. A poor preacher, a thousand miles from the session of the General Conference, is subjected to a cruel hardship if he is compelled to attend to prosecute his appeal. In the meantime, agitation and strife may do much damage to the section in which the accused may reside, which might be allayed by a quicker termination. For these and other reasons which might be assigned, the committee recommend the following system of trial and appeal for traveling preachers, asking that Sections 2 and 3, pages 127, 134, and Section 1, page 146, of Discipline, be removed, except so far as they may agree with the offered sections, and the committee recommend the adoption of these sections in their stead:

SECTION II., PAGE 127.

Ques. 1. To whom is a traveling preacher amenable for his conduct?

Ans. To the Annual Conference, which shall have power to try, acquit, suspend, or expel him, as herein provided.

Ques. 2. What shall be done when a traveling preacher is accused of immorality?

Ans. If in the interval of the Conference, let the Presiding Elder, in the absence of the Bishop, call as many traveling preachers as he may think proper—at least three—and if possible bring the accused and accuser face to face. This committee shall be one of inquiry, and shall report whether there is sufficient ground for a trial. If a trial is necessary, the Presiding Elder shall summon a committee of not less than five nor more than thirteen, who shall, under his presidency, constitute a court for the trial of the case.

The committee shall meet, if practicable, in the section of the alleged offense, to give the best opportunity for the arraying of testimony for and against the accused; but if the Presiding Elder

judges it expedient, and the accused consent, the trial may be had elsewhere than in the bounds of the pastoral charge.

If the alleged offense is said to have been committed beyond the bounds of the preacher's own Conference, and within the limits of another Annual Conference, any Presiding Elder may take jurisdiction of the case in whose District the offense may have been committed, and shall have authority to proceed as above in the trial of the case. He shall make an official report of the trial to the next session of the Annual Conference to which the accused preacher belongs.

If the accused be a Presiding Elder, any three traveling elders or deacons of his District may inquire into the case, and, if they judge it necessary, report to the Bishop. If with this report there are also furnished written charges and specifications, signed by these three traveling elders or deacons, or by a member of our Church, then the Bishop shall call together a committee of at least five elders or deacons, one of whom shall be appointed president by the Bishop, and they shall try the case. Should no written charges and specifications be furnished the Bishop, he shall appoint a committee of three elders or deacons to investigate the reports and accusations, and to make out a bill of charges and specifications, a copy of which shall be furnished the accused a sufficient time before the trial to allow preparation for a defense.

Right of challenge for *cause* shall be unlimited, the objection to be decided by the president of the trial committee.

If the accused be condemned by a majority of the committee, the president of the court shall pronounce him expelled, or suspended, as the court may determine when they render the verdict; and this shall be the law in all trials of traveling preachers.

Counsel shall be allowed, if desired, who shall be of our Church; and the accused may appeal to the next session of the Annual Conference, if he give notice at the time of his trial of his intention to appeal, or as soon as he is officially informed of its result.

When accusations are made at the session of the Annual Conference, the same proceedings shall be observed as in the trial of other elders or deacons.

Ques. 3. What shall be done in case of improper tempers, words, or actions?

Ans. The preacher offending shall be reprehended by his senior in office. Should a second offense take place, one, two, or three witnesses are to be taken: if he be not then cured, accusations

shall be preferred, and he shall be dealt with as in cases of immorality—the trial to be conducted as before cited, and the several rights and duties to be allowed and performed.

Ques. 4. What shall be done with those ministers or preachers who hold and disseminate, publicly and privately, doctrines which are contrary to our Articles of Religion?

Ans. Let the same process be observed as in cases of immorality; but if the minister or preacher so offending does solemnly engage not to disseminate such erroneous doctrines in public or in private, he shall be borne with until his case can be laid before the Annual Conference. If he does not give satisfaction to the Conference by a statement and defense of his views on doctrines, he shall be dealt with as in cases of immorality: *provided* he does not voluntarily retire from the Conference and the Church.

SECTION III., PAGE 134.

Ques. What shall be done with a preacher on trial who is accused of immorality?

Ans. He shall be dealt with according to the law for the trial of local preachers, not only as to immorality, but in all other cases; and a preacher on trial shall be responsible to the Quarterly Conference of the pastoral charge that he may be serving at the time: *provided*, if the offense was committed beyond the bounds of his circuit or station, his case shall be tried by the Quarterly Conference where the offense was committed.

Ques. 5. When accusations or charges are not made until the session of the Annual Conference, what steps shall be taken in all the above-mentioned cases?

Ans. Let a committee of three ministers be appointed to investigate the accusations, and report to the Conference whether a trial is necessary; if a trial is called for, the President of the Conference shall appoint a committee of not less than five elders or deacons, to try the case, and one of the Conference secretaries shall attend, to record the proceedings of the trial. The charges and specifications, if not furnished by the accuser, shall be made out by the investigating committee. The President of the Conference shall appoint a prosecutor to represent the Church in the trial. Counsel shall be allowed the accused if desired, in all cases of trial and appeal, who shall be of our Church.

If the accused be condemned by the vote of a majority of the trial committee, the president of the court shall pronounce such

penalty of expulsion or suspension as the court may adjudge proper in the case. The proceedings in the trial shall be reported to Conference, and the judgment made matter of record. Right of appeal shall be allowed from this court to the appellate court at the same session, or to the next session, or as soon as the court can be assembled to try the appeal.

CHAPTER VII., SECTION I., PAGE 146.

1. Each Annual Conference shall organize a court of appeals, to hold their authority for a term of four years, if deemed proper by the Conference, otherwise to be appointed annually. The President of the Conference shall appoint a committee of not less than five clerical members of the Conference, to be called the Appeal Committee, who shall be presided over by the President of the Conference, or some one appointed by him to preside. The appellate court shall have authority to reverse the verdict of the court below, or to remand for a new trial.

2. A traveling preacher, tried and condemned in the interval of an Annual Conference, shall have the right of appeal to this court of his own Conference, or, if preferred, to the appellate court of an adjacent Conference. He shall have access to all the proceedings of the court which tried his case, and the proceedings of such court shall be the matter to be investigated on appeal—the proceedings of the trial committee shall be presented to the Conference by the president of the trial, or secretary, duly signed by these officers. Appellant must give notice of his intention to appeal at the time of his condemnation, or as soon as he is officially informed of the result of the trial.

The appellate court shall have jurisdiction in the trial of all appeals of local preachers, and shall have authority to reverse the verdict of a Quarterly Conference, and to remand for a new trial.

In the case of traveling preachers, the General Conference shall review the decisions of questions of law contained in the written records and documents transmitted to it from the appellate court, and where serious error, prejudicial to the interests of the accused, shall be discovered, shall take such action as justice may require.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

A motion of A. R. Winfield, to lay the report on the table as unfinished business, was not adopted.

A motion was made to act on it by items—a motion to lay it on the table did not prevail.

On motion of M. S. Andrews, the subject was indefinitely postponed.

Report No. 17 on Finance was taken up, amended, and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 17 ON FINANCE.

Extract from the will of Mrs. Ann Christian Kent, deceased: "19. I give to A. H. Redford, Agent of the Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, or his successor in office, the sum of three thousand dollars, to be controlled by said Agent, for the use of said Church, in spreading and disseminating the gospel among mankind; to be thus applied by said Agent under the direction of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, making any such disposition of said property as the General Conference shall judge best calculated to promote the object of this trust, as herein stated."

Resolved, That this General Conference directs that this sum of three thousand dollars be placed in the hands of A. H. Redford, Agent of the Publishing House, or his successor in office, and the interest thereof be paid annually to the Treasurer of the Board of Missions.

R. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

R. A. Young, chairman of the Committee on Finance, read a verbal report that a bequest of ten thousand dollars was made by J. T. Colvin, to the widows and orphans of the traveling preachers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; whereupon, on motion of D. C. Kelley, it was

Resolved, That the Agent be, and is hereby, authorized and instructed to pay out to the several Annual Conferences the interest accruing upon this fund, *pro rata* upon the basis of the amount assigned by the Joint Board of Finance for the benefit of the widows and orphans of the Annual Conferences.

J. O. A. Clark moved to advise the Agent that the money be invested in United States bonds. This motion was laid on the table.

The resolution was adopted.

Report No. 7 on Publishing Interests was taken up.

Item 1 was adopted.

Item 2 was read, and W. Mooney moved to amend by striking out "\$2 50," and inserting "\$2." This motion did not prevail, and the item was adopted.

Item 3 was read, amended, and adopted.

The report, as a whole, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 7 ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

1. Your Committee on Publishing Interests beg leave to report that they have considered the resolutions referred to them of Drs. Marshall and Oliver, asking attention to "the practicability of preparing or obtaining material for the history of our Church, with a view to early publication," and that they fully appreciate the importance of such a movement. The passing opportunities for collecting and preparing such materials should not be lost—the history must be written—will be written. We recommend the following resolutions for the adoption of the General Conference:

Resolved, That a faithful history of the M. E. Church, South, is an important chapter in the annals of the Church of Jesus Christ in the nineteenth century, and it should be preserved and put to record.

Resolved, That the Book Editor of the M. E. Church, South, be instructed to collect such materials as may be essential in preparing said history, and that our brethren everywhere be requested to reclaim such items of interest as may have been forgotten, and to collect all interesting facts in their power, and report to the Book Editor, to be carefully preserved by him.

2. Your committee has also considered the relations of the *Christian Advocate* published at Nashville to the other weekly newspapers published in the interest of our Church, and respectfully report for the adoption of the Conference the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Nashville *Christian Advocate* should be published at a price that would not undermine and destroy its less fortunate competitors in the field of Southern Methodist journalism, and we believe that \$2 50 per annum is the lowest price at which it should be issued.

3. The committee has also considered the paper signed by T. L. Mellen and others, respecting the publication by the Book Agent of books, etc., in which he has a personal interest, and recommend the adoption of the following, to be inserted among the regulations of the Publishing House: "The Agent of the Publishing House shall devote his entire time and attention to the business of the Publishing House, and during the continu

ance of his agency he shall not publish at the Publishing House any book, tract, pamphlet, or paper, in which he is personally and pecuniarily interested, either directly or indirectly, as author or otherwise, except upon a written contract with the Book Committee."

Respectfully submitted.

J. B. McFERRIN, Chairman.

DAVID MORTON, Secretary *pro tem*.

The following resolution was then offered, read, and adopted:

Resolved, That when the Book Committee shall have ascertained definitely the amount of legitimate indebtedness of the Southern Methodist Publishing House, and, after exhausting all other resources committed to them for the payment thereof, it should be discovered that there are still debts which remain unprovided for, and cannot otherwise be paid, we regard these debts as debts of the Church, contracted by its authorized agencies, which honor and Christian integrity alike require us to pay.

W. L. NUGENT,

R. K. HARGROVE,

D. C. KELLEY.

Report No. 9 of the Committee on Itinerancy was taken up.

Item 1 was read and adopted.

Item 2 was read and adopted.

The report, as a whole, was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 9 ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy have had under consideration a communication signed by J. Boring, W. F. Cook, and W. H. Potter, asking that certain changes be made in the Discipline relating to the ordination of deacons and elders. In answer to said request, the committee recommend,

1. That Chapter III., Section 11, page 92, of the Discipline, be amended by adding to the answer to question 2 these words: "*Provided*, that if he has been a local preacher three years successively, and on trial in the traveling ministry for one year next following, he shall be eligible to the office of a deacon on obtaining the approbation of the Annual Conference."

2. That Chapter III., Section 11, pages 93, 94, of the Discipline, be amended by adding to the answer to question 3 these words: "*Provided*, that if he has been a local deacon for three years successively, and on trial in the traveling ministry one year

next following, he shall be eligible to the office of an elder on obtaining the approbation of the Annual Conference."

JOHN S. MARTIN, Chairman.

C. G. ANDREWS, Secretary.

Report No. 4 on Publishing Interests was taken up.

At his own request, the name of E. E. Wiley was removed, and the name of C. G. Andrews was put in his place.

The report was adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 4 ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

Your committee have had before them resolutions signed by B. Craven, A. W. Wilson, N. T. Lupton, E. E. Wiley; also a resolution signed by R. N. Sledd, Thomas Branch, L. S. Reed; and a series of resolutions, signed by A. B. Stark, J. H. Brunner—all desiring the establishment of a Review in some appropriate form.

After extensive consultation with members of the General Conference, and mature consideration of various propositions and plans, the committee is of opinion that such a publication is necessary for the Church—that we must have under our control a periodical in which to state and discuss the higher problems of religious, literary, and scientific thought, and maintain our rightful position in the advancing culture of the age.

From investigations made, we believe a Review can be published without any financial responsibility assumed by the General Conference, and we do not believe that our past experience is conclusive proof against the success of plans now within our reach. In order, therefore, to secure the publication of a Review, properly guarded, and by what appears to be the best available means, and in order to provide, as far as possible, against such publications by parties unauthorized, irresponsible, and subject to no supervision of the Church, we recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That B. Craven, of North Carolina Conference; T. M. Finney, St. Louis; J. W. Hinton, South Georgia; N. T. Lupton, Tennessee; C. W. Miller, Kentucky; F. A. Mood, Texas; A. B. Stark, Louisville; A. W. Wilson, Baltimore; C. G. Andrews, North Mississippi; R. A. Young, Tennessee; be appointed a committee, to whom shall be committed the whole subject of a Review; and the said committee is authorized to publish a Review, under the auspices of the General Conference, at such time and place and in such manner as they may find expedient, providing for the editorial department and all other matters touching said Review, but

without any pecuniary liability by the Publishing House, the General Conference, or the Church. J. B. McFERRIN, Chairman.

J. E. COBB, Secretary.

Report No. 20 on Revisal was taken up and read, and, on motion of A. G. Haygood, was indefinitely postponed.

Report No. 15 on Revisal was taken up and read.

A. R. Winfield moved that it be indefinitely postponed.

L. M. Lee offered an amendment.

S. Rodgers moved to lay it on the table. This motion did not prevail.

A motion to reconsider a former action, by which the Conference refused to strike out the words "the pastoral instruction of children," prevailed.

The words "the pastoral instruction of children" were stricken out.

C. G. Andrews moved to strike out item 5, and M. H. Neely moved to lay that motion on the table—this motion prevailed.

D. G. Godwin moved the previous question—the call was sustained—the question was put, and the report was adopted.

REPORT NO. 15 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to submit Report No. 15, as follows:

They have had under consideration papers referred on the order of the Quarterly Conference business, and recommend the following arrangement of the questions prescribing the order of Quarterly Conference business:

1. Are there any appeals?
2. Are there any complaints?
3. Is there a written report from the preacher in charge, of the number and state of the Sunday-schools?
4. Is there a written report from the preacher in charge, on the general state of the Church? [Let this report embrace the names of those baptized, or in any other way received into the Church, and of those who have died, removed, withdrawn, or have been expelled during the quarter.]
5. What were the estimated claims, and what the final settlement of the same, in the charge the past year?
6. What amount has been estimated by the Board of Stewards for the support of the preacher in charge (and his assistant) for the present year? [1 or 2.]

7. What amounts have been apportioned to this charge by the District Stewards? [1 or 2.]

(1.) For the Presiding Elder?

(2.) For the Bishops?

(3.) For the Conference claimants?

8. What amount has been raised the present quarter for the support of the ministry, and how has it been applied? [Let the answer to this question embrace only the sum raised and paid on the claims of the Presiding Elder and the preachers.]

9. What has been raised the present quarter for other objects?

10. Are there any applications for license to preach or exhort?

11. Who are elected to fill vacancies in the Boards of Trustees?

12. What is doing for the cause of missions?

13. What is doing for the cause of education? [2.]

14. Have the General Rules been read? [3.]

15. Is there a Church-register belonging to this charge, and has it been faithfully kept? [3.]

16. Have the local preachers and exhorters passed an examination of character, and have their licenses been renewed? [3 or 4.]

17. Are there any applications for recommendation to the Annual Conference to be admitted on trial into the traveling connection, or for readmission? [4.]

18. What local preachers are recommended to the Annual Conference for ordination? [4.]

19. Who are elected Stewards for the ensuing Conference year? [4.]

20. Who is elected Recording Steward? [4.]

21. Who are elected District Stewards? [4.]

22. Who are elected Sunday-school superintendents? [4.]

23. Are there any reports from the Trustees of Church-property? [4.]

24. What are the statistics to be reported to the Annual Conference? [4.]

25. Is there any miscellaneous business?

26. Where shall the next Quarterly Conference be held?

[NOTE.—The questions followed by figures are to be asked only at the Quarterly Conferences indicated by the numbers.]

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

John S. Martin, chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented report No. 12 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT NO. 12 ON ITINERANCY.

The Committee on Itinerancy have considered a paper signed by P. H. Whisner and Samuel Rodgers, asking that the Discipline be so changed as to provide for the appointment of a committee to whom shall be referred all applications for the supernumerary and superannuated relation, and do recommend non-concurrence.

JOHN S. MARTIN, Chairman.

C. G. ANDREWS, Secretary.

Report No. 18 on Revisal was taken up, and indefinitely postponed. It is as follows:

REPORT NO. 18 ON REVISAL.

Resolutions of W. S. Black, W. H. Bobbitt, and others, proposing to insert after paragraph 3, Chapter XI., Section 4, pages 180, 181, a new paragraph, to be numbered "4," respectfully recommend that the following be inserted as above indicated:

"4. The trustees of District property, with the advice of the Presiding Elder and the District Conference, shall have power to sell a District parsonage, or any District property which has gone out of use, or should be removed to another place, the proceeds of which shall be invested in other District property, under the direction of the Presiding Elder and the District Conference."

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

On motion of A. R. Winfield, the Bishops were requested to appoint annually a week of prayer.

D. C. Kelley moved a reconsideration of the vote by which the Montana Conference was organized.

This was indefinitely postponed, on motion of D. Morton.

A motion to reconsider the action fixing the boundary line between North Alabama and North Mississippi Conferences did not prevail.

On motion of W. G. Veal, the Course of Study for traveling and local preachers is to be printed in the Appendix to the Discipline.

The following resolution was offered, read, and adopted—the rules being suspended for immediate action:

Resolved, That Chapter III., Section 2, Answer 9, of the Discipline, be amended by striking out all of the first clause down to the word "to" in the fourth line, page 71, so that the answer shall read, "to divide a circuit, station, or mission, into two or more, when he judges it necessary."

JOHN S. MARTIN, A. W. WILSON,
C. G. ANDREWS, R. H. MAHON,
J. E. EVANS, C. W. MILLER,
R. A. YOUNG, JESSE BORING,
P. A. PETERSON.

The following resolutions were offered, read, and adopted :

Resolved, That the action of this Conference, in refusing to adopt Report No. 7 on Revisal, touching dancing and other sinful amusements, is not to be understood as giving encouragement to the practices therein condemned, but simply as a declaration of the judgment of the Conference, that the General Rule which forbids the "taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus," as explained and applied in the Addresses of the Bishops in 1870 and 1874, which were adopted by the General Conference, is the law of the Church on these subjects, and is sufficient, if faithfully enforced, to correct the evils complained of in said report.

J. E. EVANS, J. S. MARTIN,
A. S. ANDREWS, SAMUEL RODGERS,
J. B. McFERRIN.

Resolved, That the Sunday-school Editor be requested to assist the Book Editor in preparing the new Discipline for the press.

Resolved, That the Book Agent be, and he is hereby, instructed to publish, as soon as possible, the Journal of this session of the General Conference, and the new Discipline.

Resolved, That while we recognize the great good that has resulted from the visits of our Bishops to the District Conferences, still, in view of the arduous work before them in attending the sessions of the Annual Conferences, the General Conference leaves this matter entirely to their option and convenience.

A. R. WINFIELD,
A. HUNTER.

Resolved, That this General Conference is greatly indebted to Dr. Thomas O. Summers and his able assistant secretaries (including the efficient stenographer and reporter), for their faithfulness in reporting the proceedings of this session of the

Conference, and for the correctness with which the Minutes have been kept.

J. W. PAULETT, P. GALLAGHER,
THOS. P. SUMMERS.

Resolved, That we, the members of this General Conference, hereby tender to the authorities and citizens, the Churches and pastors of Atlanta, our hearty thanks for the kind, generous, and delightful manner in which they have received and entertained us in their hospitable homes and churches.

Resolved, That our thanks are due to the various railroad officials for reduced fare; to the reporters of the *Daily Constitution* (Atlanta), and the *Morning News* (Savannah), as well as to the *Daily Christian Advocate*, for faithful reports and kindly notices, and to Mr. Stewart and assistants for constant attentions.

D. C. KELLEY, W. H. MORROW,
W. MOONEY, W. BURR.

Resolved, That the next General Conference shall meet at 9 A.M., on the first Wednesday in May, 1882.

C. G. ANDREWS,
A. R. WINFIELD.

Resolved, That the Book Agent, with the approval of the Book Editor, the Book Committee, and one of the Bishops, be allowed to publish at pleasure, in the interest of the General Conference, a small hymn or song book suited to revival, prayer, and social meetings.

C. K. MARSHALL,
W. H. FOSTER.

The Minutes were read and confirmed.

The time of adjournment having arrived, the Chair called on the venerable senior Bishop to lead in prayer—which he did in a most impressive manner—the doxology was sung—the benediction was pronounced by Bishop Wightman, and thus closed the eighth session of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; the next session to be in Nashville, Tenn., the first Wednesday in May, 1882.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| ROBERT PAINE, | GEORGE F. PIERCE, |
| HUBBARD H. KAVANAUGH, | WILLIAM M. WIGHTMAN, |
| DAVID S. DOGGETT, | HOLLAND N. MCTYEIRE, |
| JOHN C. KEENER. | |

THOMAS O. SUMMERS, *Secretary*.

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| ATTICUS G. HAYGOOD, | } <i>Assistant Secretaries.</i> |
| S. H. BABCOCK, | |
| W. C. JOHNSON, | |

APPENDIX.

REPORT NO. 5 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to present as Report No. 5, that they have had under patient consideration a number of papers, with reference to which they recommend as set forth in the following itemized statement, to wit:

1. A memorial from the North Carolina Conference, asking that local preachers be tried by the District Conference, and tried only by local preachers. The first point has been previously reported upon, and we recommend non-concurrence in the latter.

2. A resolution signed by John E. Edwards and Thomas Branch, touching the lodging of complaint against a Bishop. Non-concurrence.

3. Resolution signed J. B. McGehee, Young Ewing, and J. M. Matthews, referring to Constitution and business of District Conference. Non-concurrence, except at such point as have already favorably reported upon.

4. A resolution signed by Wellborn Mooney, J. B. Allison, D. C. Kelley, and others, authorizing the Presiding Elder to appoint a traveling elder to preside over the Quarterly Conference in his absence. Non-concurrence.

5. A resolution signed D. G. Godwin, A. H. Thomas, and W. T. Harris, on the subject of stewards; non-concurrence. But your committee recommend that Article 5, Section 16, Chapter III., page 110, be stricken from the Discipline, and that Answer 2, Question 1, Section 16, Chapter III., page 108, of the Discipline, be amended by substituting "shall" for "may," in the third line from the bottom of the page, so that the paragraph will read: "Trustees for District property shall be appointed by the Quarterly Conference," etc.

6. A memorial signed by A. M. Chrietzberg and O. A. Darby, asking for additional questions in the order of Quarterly Conference business. Non-concurrence, so far as to recommend that "What was the estimated claims, and what the final settlement of the same in this charge the past year?" be inserted between Answers 4 and 5, Section 4, Chapter II., page 57, of the Discipline, and the numbering of the answers made to conform to this change.

7. Resolution signed by H. D. Moore and S. H. Dent, relating to report by preacher in charge to the Quarterly Conference of persons received. Non-concurrence.

8. Resolution signed by B. M. Messick and H. C. Settle, striking out "pastoral instruction of children" from Answer 3, Question 5, page 56, of Discipline. Non-concurrence.

9. Memorial from Quarterly Conference Savannah Station, Tennessee Conference, asking for inspection of Journals by District Conference, is herewith returned, the subject-matter having already been favorably reported upon.

10. A resolution signed by H. P. Walker and C. W. Miller, requiring record-

ing stewards to send the records of their respective Quarterly Conferences to the Annual Conference. Non-concurrence, the committee approving the present order, except in the specific changes already recommended.

11. A resolution of A. C. Thomas and T. L. Boswell, which proposes to strike from the requirement that Quarterly Conference records be carried to the Quarterly Conference. Non-concurrence.

12. Memorial signed C. W. Miller, H. P. Walker, relative to reërrangement of questions for Annual Conference business. Non-concurrence.

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

Presented, and laid on the table under the rule, Friday, May 10, 1878.

MINORITY REPORT NO. 5 ON REVISAL.

Offered as a substitute for item 5:

Resolved, That Answer 5, Question 2, Section 16, page 110, of the Discipline, be amended so as to read as follows: "When a pastoral charge (having a general Board of Trustees) is united with another pastoral charge, the general board shall be dissolved by the Quarterly Conference of the united charge, and, if need be, require another board to be elected, provided local boards for holding specific property shall not be molested by this action."

W. G. VEAL,

P. A. PETERSON,

H. V. PHILPOTT,

E. N. WATSON.

Presented, and laid on the table under the rule, Friday, May 10, 1878.

REPORT NO. 16 ON FINANCE.

Your committee, to whom was referred a resolution signed by P. Gallagher and others, instructing your committee to inquire into the expediency of enacting a law so that bond, with approved security, shall be required of all our General Conference officers, and others who may be placed in charge of funds belonging to the Church, have considered thereof, and have instructed me to report that they recommend the enactment of a new and separate chapter in the Discipline, as follows:

"Chapter ———, on securities to be given by officers in charge of funds belonging to the Church. Section 1. Officers of this General Conference having funds in charge, shall be required to give bond, with approved securities, for the faithful performance of their duties, in the several sums, and payable in case of default, to the several parties, named, as follows: The Treasurer of the Board of Missions, to the Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in the sum of ——— dollars; the Treasurer of the Bishop's Fund, to the Book Committee of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in the sum of ——— dollars; the Agent of the Publishing House, to the Book Committee of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in the sum of ——— dollars."

R. A. YOUNG, Chairman.

J. C. C. WINCH, Secretary.

Presented, and laid on the table, Monday morning, May 20, 1878.

MINORITY REPORT NO. 16 ON FINANCE.

A minority of your committee, being unable to agree with a majority in recommending a new and separate section to be enacted and inserted in the Discipline, requiring the Treasurer of the Board of Missions and the Treasurer of the Bishop's Fund each to give bond, with approved security, for the faithful performance of his duties, asks leave to report:

That in the opinion of the minority such action will be unwise and injudicious, for several reasons.

1. No salary or other compensation is allowed to either of said Treasurers for their services.

2. No person is likely to be found to perform the duties, gratuitously, and give a bond, with good security, for the privilege.

3. It is believed to be inexpedient at this time to allow a compensation to either of said officers, as men of unquestioned financial integrity can be found who for the love they bear the Church will perform the duty without compensation.

The minority of said committee does not disagree with the conclusion of the majority that a bond and security should be required of the Agent of the Publishing House, should the Conference decide to keep that institution in operation, but a minority of your committee is of the opinion that it is not advisable to enact a separate chapter of the Discipline in this behalf, but that if any action is taken it should be incorporated with whatever legislation may be enacted respecting the conduct of the Publishing House, as it is apparent that some legislation will be necessary.

J. C. C. WINCH, Minority.

Presented, and laid on the table, Monday afternoon, May 20, 1878.

REPORT NO. 4 ON REVISAL.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to present as Report No. 4:

1. That they have had under consideration a memorial from the Neosho District Conference, South-west Missouri Annual Conference, with reference to item 1, of which they respectfully recommend that Section 3, Chapter II., page 51, of the Discipline, be amended by inserting after item 4 the following: "5. As to the manner in which the records of the Quarterly Conferences have been kept."

2. With reference to item 2 of the same paper, making examination of Quarterly Conference Journals part of the Presiding Elder's duty, they respectfully recommend non-concurrence.

3. Touching item 3 of said paper, they recommend the amendment of the answer to Question 5, Section 15, Chapter III., page 107, of the Discipline, by inserting, as a second answer, "2. To send the records of the Quarterly Conference to the District Conference for examination, by the first day of the session."

4. Your committee have also considered a series of resolutions from the Mississippi Annual Conference relating to local preachers, with the following results: They recommend concurrence with the first resolution, and that Answer 2 to Question 1, Section 2, Chapter III., page 92, of the Discipline, be amended by striking out all between the word "belongs," fifth line from the top, and the word "the," eighth line from the top, and insert the following: "Same course of study as that prescribed for candidates for admission on trial in the traveling

connection," so that the whole paragraph shall read as follows: "No person shall be licensed to preach without the recommendation of the Church of which he is a member, or of the leaders' meeting of the charge to which he belongs. Nor shall any one be licensed to preach without first being examined in the Quarterly Conference on the same course of study as that prescribed for candidates for admission on trial into the traveling connection; nor shall any license be valid unless signed by the President and Secretary of the Conference."

5. With reference to the second resolution, proposing the transfer of licensing and recommending preachers to the traveling connection, and the recommendation of local preachers for deacon's and elder's orders, from the Quarterly to the District Conference, we respectfully recommend non-concurrence.

6. With reference to the third resolution embodied in the same paper your committee agree, in the main, and recommend that the answer to Question 2, Section 11, Chapter III., page 93, of the Discipline, be amended by inserting after the word "examination," in the second line from top of page, the words, "on a course of study to be prescribed by the Bishops as a preparation for deacon's orders," so that the whole paragraph shall read: "A local preacher shall be eligible to the office of a deacon after he has preached four years from the time he received a regular license, and has obtained a recommendation from the Quarterly Conference on a proper examination on a course of study to be prescribed by the Bishops as a preparation for deacon's orders, signed by the President and the Secretary, and after his character has passed in examination before, and he has obtained the approbation of, the Annual Conference."

7. Your committee also recommend that the answer to Question 3, Section 11, Chapter III., page 93, of the Discipline, be amended by striking out all from the word "examination," seventh line from bottom, to and inclusive of the word "Secretary," fourth line from bottom, and inserting, "on a course of study to be prescribed by the Bishops as a preparation for elder's orders, and the fact of passing an approved examination on this course shall be stated in the recommendation, which shall be signed by the President and the Secretary of the Conference," so that the entire paragraph shall read: "A local deacon shall be eligible to the office of an elder after he has preached four years from the time he was ordained a deacon, and has obtained a recommendation from the Quarterly Conference on a proper examination on a course of study to be prescribed by the Bishops as a preparation for elder's orders; and the fact of passing an approved examination on this course shall be stated in the recommendation, which shall be signed by the President and the Secretary of the Conference. He shall present to the Annual Conference such recommendation, with a note certifying his belief in the doctrine and Discipline of our Church—the whole being examined by the Annual Conference; and, if approved, he may be ordained." We recommend that to conform the Discipline, Chapter II., Section 4, to this action, it be amended by striking out all that part of the proviso on page 55 which follows the word "first," in the fifth line from the top of the page, and inserting these words, "passing in the Quarterly Conference an approved examination on the course of study prescribed by the Bishops for such candidates," so that the paragraph, as amended, shall read: "To recommend suitable candidates to the Annual Conference for deacon's or elder's orders in the local connection, and for admission on trial or readmission into the traveling connection: *provided, that*

no person shall be recommended to the Annual Conference for admission on trial or for ordination, without first passing in the Quarterly Conference an approved examination on the course of study prescribed by the Bishops for such candidates."

8. Your committee has considered a memorial from the Holston Conference embodying resolutions of like tenor with those from the Mississippi Conference, and recommend concurrence so far as they state the same propositions, and no farther.

9. They have also considered a memorial from the South Carolina Conference, and recommend non-concurrence in all points not covered by the action already recommended in this report.

10. They have also considered a memorial from the Memphis Annual Conference, and recommend concurrence so far as it advises the action contemplated in this report upon similar papers from the Mississippi, Holston, and South Carolina Conferences.

Respectfully submitted.

J. E. EVANS, Chairman.

F. M. KENNEDY, Secretary.

Adopted—except items 3 and 4—Thursday morning, May 23, 1878.

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| GERMAN MISSION CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> J. B. A. Ahrens. Alternate—F. Vordenbaumen. <i>Lay:</i> A. Bering. Alternate—E. Zinke..... | 2 |
| HOLSTON CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> F. Richardson, J. S. Kennedy, W. G. E. Cunnynggham, J. M. McTeer, E. E. Wiley, E. W. Moore. Alternates—E. E. Hoss, W. W. Bays. <i>Lay:</i> J. B. Hoyle, W. W. Stringfield, W. B. Aston, J. W. Gaut, T. P. Summers, Peter Gallagher. Alternates—J. W. Paulett, L. M. Pease..... | 12 |
| ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> C. C. Mayhew. Alternate—B. R. Hester. <i>Lay:</i> Samuel Carpenter. Alternate—J. B. McBryde..... | 2 |
| INDIANA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> Jacob Ditzler. Alternate—E. H. Momen. <i>Lay:</i> John W. Smith. Alternate—W. P. Taggart..... | 2 |
| INDIAN MISSION CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> Young Ewing. Alternate—J. H. Walker. <i>Lay:</i> G. B. Hester. Alternate—B. H. Leflore..... | 2 |

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| KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> C. W. Miller, H. P. Walker, R. Hiner, J. W. Fitch. Alternates—J. Rand, S. X. Hall. <i>Lay:</i> J. W. Proctor, T. L. Given, J. C. Cooper, J. C. Woodward. Alternates—W. H. Winn, E. M. Newman..... | | 8 |
| LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> W. H. Browning, E. N. Watson, Horace Jewell. Alternates—H. D. McKinnon, Andrew Hunter. <i>Lay:</i> C. A. Gantt, W. S. Jeter, A. R. Hazen. Alternates—J. Custer, W. C. Ratcliffe..... | | 6 |
| LOS ANGELES CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> T. R. Curtis. <i>Lay:</i> Albert Oglesby. | | 2 |
| LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> Linus Parker, C. W. Carter, B. F. Alexander. Alternates—J. A. Parker, Christian Keener, John Pipes. <i>Lay:</i> W. H. Foster, A. S. Helmick, A. C. Mitchell. Alternates—A. E. Read, W. T. Blacksheer, John L. Seales..... | | 6 |
| LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> B. M. Messick, G. H. Hayes, H. C. Morrison, H. C. Settle, G. R. Browder. Alternates—H. M. Ford, A. H. Redford. <i>Lay:</i> John A. Carter, S. W. Brents, W. E. Parish, A. B. Stark, W. S. Johnson. Alternates—J. S. Lithgow, T. L. Bacon, R. T. Haley..... | | 10 |
| MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> Guilford Jones, R. H. Mahon, W. T. Harris, A. R. Wilson, T. L. Boswell. Alternates—W. C. Johnson, N. P. Ramsey, J. H. Evans, J. H. Heard. <i>Lay:</i> L. D. Mullins, A. D. Bright, A. G. Hawkins, W. T. Irion, W. A. Tanner. Alternates—S. W. Godwin, George Johnson, I. T. Bell, W. I. McFarland..... | | 10 |
| MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> C. G. Andrews, H. F. Johnson, W. L. C. Hunnicutt, C. B. Galloway. Alternates—J. A. Ellis, R. S. Woodward, R. J. Jones. <i>Lay:</i> W. L. Nugent, Irvin Miller, S. B. Watts, C. S. Stewart. Alternates—J. D. Carter, F. D. Wimberly..... | | 8 |
| MISSOURI CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> W. M. Rush, E. R. Hendrix, E. K. Miller, C. I. Vandeventer, B. H. Spencer. Alternates—Joseph H. Pritchett, J. P. Nolan. <i>Lay:</i> John D. Vincil, T. D. Woodson, P. P. Ellis, P. H. Perkins, Thomas Shackelford. Alternates—Rufus E. Anderson, J. M. Proctor..... | | 10 |
| MONTANA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> L. B. Stateler. Alternate—E. J. Stanley. <i>Lay:</i> E. G. Brooke. Alternate—John B. Taylor..... | | 2 |
| NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> Anson West, John B. Stevenson, L. M. Wilson, John A. Thompson. Alternates—John W. Newman, Robert A. Timmons. <i>Lay:</i> E. A. Powell, W. B. Wood, J. H. Harris, M. C. Baldrige. Alternates—John D. Brandon, Hiram G. Evans..... | | 8 |
| NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> N. H. D. Wilson, B. Craven, W. S. Black, L. S. Burkhead, H. T. Hudson, E. A. Yates. Alternates—J. E. Mann, S. D. Adams, J. W. North. <i>Lay:</i> R. T. Gray, T. M. Jones, J. S. Carr, W. C. Doub, W. M. Robbins, N. W. Lawrence. Alternates—E. J. Lilly, W. M. Parker, H. B. Adams..... | | 12 |
| NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> W. H. Potter, A. G. Haygood, Jesse Boring, H. H. Parks, W. F. Cook, James E. Evans, H. J. Adams. Alternates—J. W. Heidt, D. J. Myrick, C. A. Evans, S. P. Richardson. <i>Lay:</i> C. D. McCutchen, James Jackson, W. M. Sessions, W. A. Turner, | | |

- C. P. Crawford, R. M. McIntosh, Wier Boyd. Alternates—Y. L. G. Harris, J. B. Hunnicutt, J. S. Stewart, J. A. Winn 14
- NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.**—*Clerical:* T. C. Wier, S. A. Steel, T. W. Dye, T. A. S. Adams, Amos Kendall. Alternates—W. P. Barton, J. D. Cameron, J. H. Brooks. *Lay:* H. W. Foote, J. M. Wells, R. W. Jones, E. H. Moore, G. D. Shands. Alternates—R. C. Clark, J. B. Streater, J. C. Hamilton..... 10
- NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.**—*Clerical:* J. H. McLean, M. H. Neely, J. M. Binkley, W. H. Hughes. Alternates—W. F. Easterling, H. A. Bourland, L. B. Ellis, R. Lane. *Lay:* Asa Holt, W. A. Allen, W. A. Kendall, Young Burgher. Alternates—J. W. Fulton, L. M. McCorkle, J. R. Biggs, F. H. Welch..... 8
- NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.**—*Clerical:* J. D. Shaw, William Price, Horace Bishop, C. E. Brown, A. Davis. Alternates—G. W. Graves, W. R. D. Stockton. *Lay:* B. A. Philpott, J. R. Henry, W. W. Treadwell, D. H. Snyder, J. T. Yeargin. Alternates—W. D. Jackson, T. W. Hollingsworth, J. A. Graves..... 10
- PACIFIC CONFERENCE.**—*Clerical:* O. P. Fitzgerald, T. H. B. Anderson. Alternates—W. F. Compton, George Sim. *Lay:* W. F. Goad, W. B. Brown. Alternates—J. M. Preston, T. A. Snyder..... 4
- SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.**—*Clerical:* A. M. Shipp, S. B. Jones, W. W. Duncan, O. A. Darby, W. P. Mouzon. Alternates—S. H. Brown, S. A. Weber, J. M. Carlisle. *Lay:* James H. Carlisle, F. A. Conner, W. T. D. Cousar, William Stokes, H. H. Newton. Alternates—W. K. Blake, R. Y. McLeod, W. S. Morrison, J. F. Carraway, T. W. Stanland 10
- SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.**—*Clerical:* J. W. Hinton, J. S. Key, J. B. McGhee, T. T. Christian. Alternates—G. G. N. MacDonell, J. O. Branch. *Lay:* E. M. Butt, I. Hardeman, G. R. Glenn, W. I. Green. Alternates—Reuben Jones, J. W. Chatham..... 8
- SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI CONFERENCE.**—*Clerical:* M. M. Pugh, C. C. Woods, W. C. Godbey. Alternates—T. M. Cobb, W. M. Prottsman. *Lay:* J. R. Willis, N. Scarritt, G. M. Jones. Alternates—I. F. Garner, H. Clay Ewing..... 6
- ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.**—*Clerical:* D. R. McNally, W. V. Tudor. Alternates—J. S. Frasier, T. M. Finney. *Lay:* Samuel Cupples, J. C. Moore. Alternates—J. R. Dodd, W. H. Moore..... 4
- TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.**—*Clerical:* J. B. McFerrin, R. A. Young, William Burr, James D. Barbee, D. C. Kelley, Joseph B. West, John W. Hanner, sr. Alternates—R. K. Hargrove, J. A. Orman, John F. Hughes, R. K. Brown. *Lay:* Jordan Stokes, George G. Dibrell, James Whitworth, N. T. Lupton, R. H. Pickering, C. J. Moody, Thomas B. Holt. Alternates—J. B. Palmer, J. L. Parks, William Hust..... 14
- TEXAS CONFERENCE.**—*Clerical:* E. S. Smith, H. V. Philpott. Alternates—I. G. John, C. H. Brooks. *Lay:* T. J. Swearingen, B. D. Orgain. Alternates—T. H. Bowman, J. H. Stone..... 4
- VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.**—*Clerical:* W. W. Bennett, R. N. Sledd, J. E. Edwards, J. C. Granbery, J. D. Blackwell, P. A. Peterson. Alternates—E. P. Wilson, Paul Whitehead, A. G. Brown. *Lay:* W. W. Walker,

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| George M. Bain, R. Pollard, F. H. Smith, Richard Irby, L. L. Marks. Alternates—T. B. Hamlin, M. H. Garland, Thomas Branch..... | 12 |
| WESTERN CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical</i> : H. D. Hogan. Alternate—A. C. Towns. <i>Lay</i> : W. H. H. Adams. Alternate—A. G. Campbell..... | 2 |
| WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical</i> : F. B. Carroll, T. S. Wade. Alternates—W. T. Bolling, S. T. Mallory. <i>Lay</i> : John McIntosh, W. C. Ireland. Alternates—R. S. Bickle, J. E. Stewart..... | 4 |
| WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical</i> : A. H. Sutherland, W. J. Joyce. Alternates—J. G. Walker, B. Harris. <i>Lay</i> : W. G. L. Fly, M. N. Shive. Alternates—J. H. Combs, W. L. Thompson..... | 4 |
| WHITE RIVER CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical</i> : Josephus Anderson, John H. Dye. Alternate—G. A. Dannelly. <i>Lay</i> : George Thornburg, D. B. Warren. Alternate—L. L. Mack..... | 4 |
| Total..... | 258 |

MEMBERS

OF THE

NINTH GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH.

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| ALABAMA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> T. O. Summers, R. B. Crawford, O. R. Blue, W. A. McCarty, T. F. Mangum, M. S. Andrews (alternate, in place of T. O. Summers, deceased). <i>Lay:</i> P. G. Wood, S. H. Dent, J. W. Portis, J. T. Harris, F. Law, R. H. Powell, (alternate in place of P. G. Wood a few days, and in place of J. T. Harris the remainder of the session)..... | 12 |
| ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> Benjamin H. Greathouse, S. H. Babcock. <i>Lay:</i> Frank Parke, J. W. Jones..... | 4 |
| BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> Alpheus W. Wilson, Rumsey Smithson, Samuel Rodgers, John S. Martin, James S. Gardner, William P. Harrison, John C. Dice (alternate, in place of A. W. Wilson, elected Bishop). <i>Lay:</i> Jesse B. Wilson, E. B. Prettyman, Thomas J. Magruder, James H. H. Figgatt, John G. Cox..... | 12 |
| COLUMBIA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> J. R. N. Bell..... | 1 |
| DENVER CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> A. H. Quillian, J. W. Carnes (alternate, a part of the session in place of A. H. Quillian). <i>Lay:</i> Isaac Brinker.. | 3 |
| EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> S. W. Turner, John Adams, R. W. Thompson (alternate, in place of John Adams, a part of the session). <i>Lay:</i> W. W. Davis, Huston Twomey (alternate, in place of T. R. Bonner) | 5 |
| FLORIDA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> C. E. Dowman, F. Pasco. <i>Lay:</i> J. W. Tucker, T. Turnbull..... | 4 |
| GERMAN MISSION CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> J. B. A. Ahrens..... | 1 |
| HOLSTON CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> F. Richardson, J. S. Kennedy, W. G. E. Cunnyngnam, J. M. McTeer, E. E. Wiley, E. W. Moore, E. E. Hoss (alternate, a few days, in place of E. W. Moore). <i>Lay:</i> J. B. Hoyle, W. W. Stringfield, W. B. Aston, J. W. Gaut, T. P. Summers, P. Gallagher, J. W. Paulett (alternate, part of the time, in place of J. B. Hoyle, and in place of P. Gallagher a part of the session)..... | 14 |
| ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> C. C. Mayhew. <i>Lay:</i> Samuel Carpenter | 2 |
| INDIANA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> Jacob Ditzler. <i>Lay:</i> John W. Smith.... | 2 |
| INDIAN MISSION CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> Young Ewing. <i>Lay:</i> G. B. Hester..... | 2 |

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| KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> C. W. Miller, H. P. Walker, R. Hiner, J. W. Fitch. <i>Lay:</i> J. W. Proctor, T. L. Given, J. C. Cooper, J. C. Woodward, E. M. Newman (alternate, part of the session, in place of T. L. Given)..... | 9 |
| LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> W. H. Browning, E. N. Watson, Horace Jewell. <i>Lay:</i> C. A. Gantt, W. S. Jeter, A. R. Hazen..... | 6 |
| LOS ANGELES CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> T. R. Curtis. <i>Lay:</i> Albert Oglesby. | 2 |
| LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> Linus Parker, C. W. Carter, B. F. Alexander, J. A. Parker (alternate, in place of Linus Parker, elected Bishop). <i>Lay:</i> W. H. Foster, A. S. Helmick, A. C. Mitchell..... | 7 |
| LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> B. M. Messick, G. H. Hayes, H. C. Morrison, H. C. Settle, G. R. Browder. <i>Lay:</i> John A. Carter, S. W. Brents, W. E. Parish, A. B. Stark, W. S. Johnson, R. T. Haley (alternate, part of the session, in place of W. E. Parrish)..... | 11 |
| MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> Guilford Jones, R. H. Mahon, W. T. Harris, A. R. Wilson, T. L. Boswell, W. C. Johnson (alternate, part of the session, in place of A. R. Wilson). <i>Lay:</i> L. D. Mullins, A. D. Bright, A. G. Hawkins, W. T. Irion, W. A. Tanner..... | 11 |
| MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> C. G. Andrews, H. F. Johnson, W. L. C. Hunnicutt, C. B. Galloway. <i>Lay:</i> Irvin Miller, S. B. Watts, C. S. Stewart..... | 7 |
| MISSOURI CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> W. M. Rush, E. R. Hendrix, E. K. Miller, C. I. Vandeventer, B. H. Spencer. <i>Lay:</i> John D. Vincil, T. D. Woodson, P. P. Ellis, P. H. Perkins, Thomas Shackelford..... | 10 |
| MONTANA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> L. B. Stateler..... | 1 |
| NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> Anson West, John B. Stevenson, L. M. Wilson, John A. Thompson. <i>Lay:</i> E. A. Powell, W. B. Wood, J. H. Harris, M. C. Baldridge..... | 8 |
| NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> N. H. D. Wilson, B. Craven, W. S. Black, L. S. Burkhead, H. T. Hudson, E. A. Yates. <i>Lay:</i> R. T. Gray, T. M. Jones, W. C. Doub, N. W. Lawrence, E. J. Lilly (alternate, in place of W. M. Robbins), Henry B. Adams (alternate, in place of J. S. Carr)..... | 12 |
| NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> W. H. Potter, A. G. Haygood, Jesse Boring, H. H. Parks, W. F. Cook, James E. Evans, H. J. Adams. <i>Lay:</i> C. D. McCutchen, James Jackson, W. M. Sessions, W. A. Turner, C. P. Crawford, R. M. McIntosh, Wier Boyd, J. S. Stewart (alternate, part of the session, in place of James Jackson, and the remainder in place of C. P. Crawford)..... | 15 |
| NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> T. C. Wier, S. A. Steel, T. W. Dye, T. A. S. Adams, Amos Kendall, W. P. Barton (alternate, part of the session, in place of T. A. S. Adams). <i>Lay:</i> H. W. Foote, J. M. Wells, R. W. Jones, E. H. Moore, G. D. Shands..... | 11 |
| NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> J. H. McLean, M. H. Neely, J. M. Binkley, W. H. Hughes. <i>Lay:</i> W. A. Allen, Young Burgher, J. W. Fulton (alternate, in place of Asa Holt), F. H. Welch (alternate, in place of W. A. Kendall)..... | 8 |

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| NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> J. D. Shaw, William Price, Horace Bishop, C. E. Brown, A. Davis. <i>Lay:</i> B. A. Philpott, J. R. Henry, W. W. Treadwell, D. H. Snyder..... | 9 |
| PACIFIC CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> O. P. Fitzgerald, T. H. B. Anderson. <i>Lay:</i> W. B. Brown..... | 3 |
| SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> A. M. Shipp, S. B. Jones, W. W. Duncan, O. A. Darby, W. P. Mouzon. <i>Lay:</i> James H. Carlisle, F. A. Conner, W. T. D. Cousar, H. H. Newton..... | 9 |
| SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> J. W. Hinton, J. S. Key, J. B. McGehee, T. T. Christian. <i>Lay:</i> E. M. Butt, I. Hardeman, G. R. Glenn, W. I. Green..... | 8 |
| SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> M. M. Pugh, C. C. Woods, W. C. Godbey, W. M. Prottsman (alternate, part of the session, in place of C. C. Woods), T. M. Cobb (alternate, part of the session, in place of W. C. Godbey). <i>Lay:</i> N. Scarritt, G. M. Jones..... | 7 |
| ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> D. R. McAnally, W. V. Tudor. <i>Lay:</i> Samuel Cupples, J. C. Moore..... | 4 |
| TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> J. B. McFerrin, R. A. Young, William Burr, James D. Barbee, D. C. Kelley, Joseph B. West, John W. Han- ner, sr. <i>Lay:</i> Jordan Stokes, George G. Dibrell, James Whitworth, N. T. Lupton, R. H. Pickering, C. J. Moody, Thomas B. Holt, W. Hust (alternate, part of the session, in place of C. J. Moody), J. B. Palmer (alternate, part of the session, in place of George G. Dibrell), J. L. Parks (alternate, part of the session, in place of G. G. Dibrell).... | 17 |
| TEXAS CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> E. S. Smith, H. V. Philpott, I. G. John (alternate, part of the session, in place of E. S. Smith). <i>Lay:</i> T. J. Swearingen, B. D. Orgain..... | 5 |
| VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> W. W. Bennett, R. N. Sledd, J. E. Ed- wards, J. C. Granbery, J. D. Blackwell, P. A. Peterson, E. P. Wilson (alternate, in place of J. C. Granbery, elected Bishop). <i>Lay:</i> W. W. Walker, George M. Bain, R. Pollard, Richard Irby, L. L. Marks, T. B. Hamlin (alternate, in place of F. H. Smith)..... | 13 |
| WESTERN CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> H. D. Hogan. <i>Lay:</i> W. H. H. Adams. | 2 |
| WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> F. B. Carroll, T. S. Wade. <i>Lay:</i> John McIntosh, W. C. Ireland, J. E. Stewart (alternate, part of the session, in place of John McIntosh)..... | 5 |
| WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> A. H. Sutherland, W. J. Joyce. <i>Lay:</i> M. N. Shive..... | 3 |
| WHITE RIVER CONFERENCE.— <i>Clerical:</i> Josephus Anderson, John H. Dye. <i>Lay:</i> George Thornburg, D. B. Warren..... | 4 |
| Total..... | 269 |

JOURNAL
OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH,
MAY 3-25 1882.

THE Ninth General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, began its session in McKendree Church, Nashville, Tenn., Wednesday, May 3, 1882, at 9 o'clock A.M.

All the Bishops were present.

The senior Bishop, Paine, though quite feeble, took the chair, and directed the opening service.

Bishop Kavanaugh read, and the Conference sung, Hymn 259,

Draw near, O Son of God, draw near.

After the singing of this hymn, Bishop Kavanaugh led in prayer.

Bishop Pierce then read Isaiah lxii., and Bishop Keener Ephesians

iii. Bishop McTyeire read Hymn 887,

I love thy kingdom, Lord.

After the singing of which, J. E. Evans led in prayer.

The presiding Bishop declared the Conference ready to proceed with the calling of the roll, and requested T. O. Summers, Secretary of the last General Conference, to call the roll of members elect. Vouchers for the delegates elect having been furnished, at the request of the former Secretary the roll of Conferences was called by W. M. Leftwich, assisted by J. D. Vincil. Two hundred and eighteen members answered to their names, as follows:

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: T. O. Summers, R. B. Crawford, O. R. Blue, W. A. McCarty, T. F. Mangum. *Lay*: S. H. Dent, J.

W. Portis, J. T. Harris, F. Law, and R. H. Powell, alternate for P. G. Wood. 10.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Benj. H. Greathouse, S. H. Babcock. *Lay*: Frank Parke. 3.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. W. Wilson, R. Smithson, S. Rogers, J. S. Martin, J. S. Gardner, W. P. Harrison. *Lay*: J. B. Wilson, E. B. Prettyman, T. J. Magruder, J. H. H. Figgatt, J. G. Cox. 11.

COLUMBIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. R. N. Bell. 1.

DENVER CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. H. Quillian. *Lay*: Isaac Brinker. 2.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: S. W. Turner, John Adams. *Lay*: W. W. Davis, and H. Twomey, alternate for T. R. Bonner. 4.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: C. E. Dowman, F. Pasco. *Lay*: J. W. Tucker, T. Turnbull. 4.

GERMAN MISSION CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. B. A. Ahrens. 1.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: F. Richardson, J. S. Kennedy, W. G. E. Cunyngham, J. M. McTeer, E. E. Wiley, and E. E. Hoss, alternate for E. W. Moore. *Lay*: W. B. Aston, J. W. Gaut, T. P. Summers, P. Gallagher, and J. W. Paulett, alternate for J. B. Hoyle. 11.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: C. C. Mayhew. *Lay*: Samuel Carpenter. 2.

INDIANA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. Ditzler. 1.

INDIAN MISSION CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: G. B. Hester. 1.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: C. W. Miller, H. P. Walker, R. Hiner, J. W. Fitch. *Lay*: J. W. Proctor, J. C. Woodward. 6.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: W. H. Browning, E. N. Watson, Horace Jewell. *Lay*: C. A. Gantt. 4.

LOS ANGELES CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: T. R. Curtis. *Lay*: Albert Oglesby. 2.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Linus Parker, C. W. Carter, B. F. Alexander. *Lay*: W. H. Foster, A. C. Mitchell. 5.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: B. M. Messick, G. H. Hayes, H. C. Morrison, H. C. Settle, G. R. Browder. *Lay*: J. A. Carter, S. W. Brents, W. E. Parrish, A. B. Stark, W. S. Johnson. 10.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Guilford Jones, R. H. Mahon, W. T. Harris, A. R. Wilson, T. L. Boswell. *Lay*: L. D. Mullins, A. D. Bright, A. G. Hawkins, J. T. Irion, W. A. Tanner. 10.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: C. G. Andrews, H. F. Johnson, W. L. C. Hunnicutt. *Lay*: I. Miller, S. B. Watts, C. S. Stewart. 6.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: W. M. Rush, E. R. Hendrix, E. K. Miller, B. H. Spencer, C. I. Vandeventer. *Lay*: John D. Vincil, P. P. Ellis, P. H. Perkins, Thomas Shackelford. 9.

MONTANA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: L. B. Stateler. 1.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Anson West, J. B. Stevenson, L. M. Wilson, J. A. Thompson. *Lay*: W. B. Wood, J. H. Harris. 6.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: N. H. D. Wilson, B. Craven, W. S. Black, L. S. Burkhead, H. T. Hudson, E. A. Yates. *Lay*: R. T. Gray, T. M. Jones, W. C. Doub, N. W. Lawrence, and E. J. Lilly, alternate for W. M. Robbins. 11.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: W. H. Potter, A. G. Haygood, J. Boring, H. H. Parks, W. F. Cook, J. E. Evans, H. J. Adams. *Lay*: C. D. McCutchen, W. M. Sessions, W. A. Turner, C. P. Crawford, R. M. McIntosh, Wier Boyd. 13.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: T. C. Wier, T. W. Dye, T. A. S. Adams, Amos Kendall. *Lay*: H. W. Foote, J. M. Wells, R. W. Jones, E. H. Moore, G. D. Shands. 9.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. H. McLean, M. H. Neely, J. M. Binkley, W. H. Hughes. *Lay*: W. Allen, Young Burgher, J. W. Fulton, alternate for A. Holt, and F. H. Welsh, alternate for W. A. Kendall. 8.

NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. D. Shaw, W. Price, Horace Bishop, C. E. Brown. *Lay*: J. R. Henry, W. W. Treadwell. 6.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: O. P. Fitzgerald, T. H. B. Anderson. *Lay*: W. B. Brown. 3.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. M. Shipp, S. B. Jones, W. W. Duncan, W. P. Mouzon. *Lay*: J. H. Carlisle, F. A. Connor, W. T. D. Couzar, H. H. Newton. 8.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. W. Hinton, J. S. Key, J. B. McGhee, T. T. Christian. *Lay*: I. Hardeman, W. I. Green. 6.

SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: M. M. Pugh, W. C. Godbey, and W. M. Prottsman, alternate for C. C. Woods. *Lay*: N. Scarritt, G. M. Jones. 5.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: D. R. McAnally, W. V. Tudor. 2.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. B. McFerrin, R. A. Young, W. Burr, J. D. Barbee, D. C. Kelley, J. B. West, J. W. Hanner, sr. *Lay*: J. Stokes, J. Whitworth, N. T. Lupton, R. H. Pickering, T. B. Holt. 12.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: E. S. Smith, H. V. Philpott. *Lay*: J. T. Swearingen, B. D. Orgain. 4.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: W. W. Bennett, R. N. Sledd, J. E. Edwards, J. C. Granbery, J. D. Blackwell, P. A. Peterson. *Lay*: W. W. Walker, G. M. Bain, R. Irby, L. L. Marks, and T. B. Hamlin, alternate for F. H. Smith. 11.

WESTERN CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: H. D. Hogan. 1.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: F. B. Carroll, T. S. Wade. *Lay*: John McIntosh. 3.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. H. Sutherland, W. J. Joyce. *Lay*: M. N. Shive. 3.

WHITE RIVER CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: J. H. Dye. *Lay*: G. Thornburg, D. B. Warren. 3.

A quorum being present, on motion of D. R. McAnally, T. O. Summers was unanimously elected Secretary by a rising vote. For this mark of personal esteem he returned thanks to the Conference, and requested that J. D. Vincil and W. M. Leftwich should be elected Assistant Secretaries, which was done accordingly.

The presiding Bishop announced that the General Conference was organized and ready to proceed to business.

R. A. Young, on behalf of the Committee on Entertainment, delivered a brief but appropriate address of welcome to the homes and hospitality of Nashville.

On motion of J. B. West, the Conference agreed to meet at 9 A.M., and adjourn at 12:30 P.M.

The following resolution was then offered and adopted:

Resolved, That the standing committees be composed of one delegate from each Annual Conference, to be nominated by the respective delegations, and that the following be the committees:

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. On Episcopacy. | 5. On Missions. |
| 2. On Itinerancy. | 6. On Boundaries. |
| 3. On Revisal. | 7. On Education. |
| 4. On Sunday-schools. | 8. On Publishing Interests. |

J. E. EVANS,

J. H. McLEAN.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the Conference agreed that the delegates should meet at 3 o'clock P.M., to nominate the members of the standing committees, and report to the Conference at its next session.

On motion of J. B. McFerrin, the Presiding Elder of the Nashville District and the pastors of the city Churches were appointed a Committee on Public Worship.

Bishop McTyeire then read the Episcopal Address, as follows:

ADDRESS OF THE BISHOPS.

BELOVED BRETHREN:—We join you in rendering thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ, for his good hand upon us in bringing us to meet again in his name.

Twenty-four years ago the General Conference met here. Many and great changes have occurred in the outward world; but the Church is seen, in the midst of them, the same in spirit and purpose, with suitable adaptations in methods and plans to the times and circumstances—thus showing her identity and vitality.

You who were members of that body will hardly fail to note how large a proportion of those who sat by your side, and took counsel with you then, have been called to give account of their stewardship. Let us, with a due sense of responsibility, address ourselves to what is before us, conferring together on things pertaining to the kingdom of God. And we cannot have a better rule for securing personal edification and safety in counsel than the old one which the fathers printed in the Discipline, for the General and Yearly Conferences: "It is desired that all things be considered, on these occasions, as in the immediate presence of God." "Let us have an especial care to set God always before us."

A review of the progress of the Church for the four years just past, and a statement of its present condition and prospects, afford cause for humility and gratitude. We have enjoyed great opportunities. Our land has had peace and health. There has been neither adversary nor evil occurrent. Open doors have invited us on every side. By preaching the gospel with more fidelity, and pressing its truths upon the consciences of men; by a more tender pastoral care and faithful administration of discipline; by works of mercy according to our ability, and by being liberal, as God has prospered us, in supporting his cause; by an habitual invocation and coöperation with the grace of his Spirit, and a consecration of the blessings of his providence—we might this day have seen the kingdom of our Master more thoroughly established and widely diffused in the earth than it is.

But God has been pleased to accept the service of imperfect agents. To an extent calling for our grateful acknowledgment he makes his pleasure to prosper in our hands.

The force of itinerant ministers under appointment to active labor in our thirty-nine Annual Conferences and our Mission-fields is 3,704—being an increase in the last *quadrennium* of 247. We have never

known fewer failures on the part of preachers to go to appointments—many of them involving special hardships, covering as they do new ground, where no line of things has been made ready to hand. The people receive them heartily, and are improving in the provision made for their support. Our itinerant system is effective.

The membership has increased from 798,862 to 860,687. Thirteen thousand of these were added to the Communion of the Church last year. The amount of Church-property and accommodation for congregations has increased in proportion. Houses of worship have been built or renovated on better style of architecture, and there has been, in a marked degree, a general clearing out of old debts.

The condition of our Mission-work, at home and abroad, may be outlined in the following statements:

The amount raised for Foreign Missions, from May, 1874, to June, 1878, was \$242,933.98; from June, 1878, to April, 1882, \$354,371.99—an increase in the last four years of \$111,438.01.

In the same years were contributed to Domestic Missions within the bounds of the Annual Conferences the sums respectively of \$216,916.67 and \$226,850, the amount in the last *quadrennium* being in excess of the former by \$9,934.31.

In the prosecution of our Western work, especially through Colorado and New Mexico toward Arizona and Southern California, we have made an appreciable addition to the itinerant force of the Denver Conference, which includes that territory—as large an addition as the funds appropriated for their support by the Board of Missions would allow. Very much more requires to be done in that direction. At least as large an expenditure should be made upon the western extremity of the line, in connection with the Los Angeles Conference and coming eastward through Arizona. A vigorous policy is called for if we would do the duty that lies next to us. We have special adaptation and responsibilities for occupying this territory, newly opened and rapidly filling up with an enterprising population. In the neglect or tardy performance of this duty we shall suffer much loss, and be cut off from our own proper lines of operation.

A considerable Mission-field in connection with the North-west Texas Conference has been taken under the care of the Board, a field requiring men and means beyond our present supply, but giving promise of early and large returns.

The German work, lying principally in Texas and Louisiana, is making progress—not rapid, but sure. Its opportunities are great and increasing, but its means comparatively limited.

In the Indian Territory, on our Western frontier, is a field of Church-labor possessing peculiar interest. The Indian Mission has steadily grown. We have now in that Conference over five thousand members—Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks, and Seminoles, besides several hundred white people and negroes, who have obtained citizenship or right of residence among the natives. The gospel and the ordinances of the Church are dispensed to them by more than thirty traveling preachers—most of them Indians—and one hundred and twenty local preachers. There is improvement in the direction of self-support in this Mission. In Church-schools and building houses of worship more is being done by the Indians than heretofore.

The Mexican Border Mission, on our Southern frontier, has extended its territorial limits. The number of members is near one thousand; native preachers, seventeen; churches have been built, and more are projected. The wants of all that region, on both sides of the Rio Grande, demand our attention, and will repay our toil.

The Central Mexican Mission has been strengthened by the addition of two missionaries. The enlargement of the field required this, and, if it continues in the same ratio, more missionaries will be needed within the next four years, not to do the work of native preachers, but to supervise districts extending beyond the present boundaries of the Mission. The way is open, and there is nothing to hinder extension but lack of supplies.

In China, three additions have been made to the laborers under care of the Board of Missions, and another is about to sail by way of Europe in company with an older missionary, who has been using his enforced visit and stay in this country to fit himself for a wider range of employment. The arrival of these two brethren will give our Board eight active and efficient American laborers in that field. The addition of stations and preaching-places, however, has been such that this number is inadequate to the exactions of the situation, especially in view of the success attending the opening of the educational work lately projected by the Superintendent, Dr. Allen. There is immediate need there of six additional missionaries to teach, as well as to preach. The difficulty, as stated by Dr. Allen, in the conduct of his high schools, is not the want of pupils, but the scarcity of teachers to take charge of the Chinese youth who seek instruction at his hands. One lady, also, has been added as a teacher in the schools under the direction of the Board. The new missionaries sent out to this and other fields have given proof of the possession of the qualities necessary for their high calling.

Two missionaries have been added to the Brazil Mission. There is just now need of two or three more; and a sufficient expenditure should be made to put our enterprise in that Empire upon a footing that will cause the people to recognize its permanency.

It is becoming here to make mention of a name withheld from publication during his life-time because of the modesty of its bearer. We are indebted to the late J. H. Buffington, of Covington, Kentucky, for benefactions which have materially advanced our cause, and furnish an example worthy of all honor and imitation. He might have retired from the anxieties and toils of business with ample provision for himself and family in his declining years; but, as he himself said, he would continue in business that he might give the proceeds to the Lord. His first gift was \$6,000, in September, 1879, to build a church and boarding-school in Suchow, China; and this memorial of him, lately dedicated, stands in the midst of that populous and literary city, an attestation of his love and faith. To this sum he from time to time added other gifts for various mission uses in Mexico and China, until his donations, when his lamented death occurred in June, 1881, amounted to more than \$16,000. Yet he was not a man of great wealth. There are many in our Communion who, with equal consecration, would be able to furnish larger material aid for the world's conversion.

A donation made in 1879, by a brother in Georgia, still living, secured the building of Trinity Church in Shanghai, which greatly strengthened our Mission, and has been a blessing from the auspicious day of its dedication.

The mission-offerings of these two persons have given character to the hopeful operations of the last four years. We may be permitted also to notice the fact that the first school-house occupied by us in China—the Clopton—for planting the leaven of Christian education among heathen children, was the gift of a Christian woman of Tennessee—the proceeds of the sale of her personal-jewelry, laid on the altar of Foreign Missions—six years ago.

Instances of this kind ought not to be isolated. While abating nothing of concerted effort, and gathering systematically and using economically smaller gifts, let it be borne in mind that not a few of our people have opportunities for well-doing that are exceptional. Urgent calls are upon us. Men moved by the Holy Ghost are preparing themselves in our schools and colleges to respond. Who will send them? Who will provide them with the material outfit and appliances necessary for holding forth the word of God as a light in

the dark places of the earth, and claiming the uttermost parts of the world for the Saviour's possession?

In view of these pressing wants and the possibilities of sanctified wealth, let us fulfill the apostolic injunction: "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; laying up for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life."

We suggest that the General Conference take measures, if practicable, to anticipate the wants of our enlarging Missions. The present arrangement, which throws the assessment and collection of funds through the Annual Conferences several months behind the appropriation and expenditure, puts the Board under the necessity of procuring advances through the Treasurer. This is inevitable, until by some means the collections and the expenditure shall be made to proceed simultaneously, or the income precedes the outlay.

The evangelization of heathen lands must be, under God, carried on mainly by converted and trained natives. America cannot send enough laborers to China, now or hereafter, for that harvest; but, by such schools as have lately been inaugurated there, we see promise of the possible occupation of that field at no great distance of time. A Providential preparation seems to have been completed, and our Church is about to see fruit where faith has waited long. Let us be equal to the full measure of the opportunity and the undertaking. It would be well, in view of the native helpers already engaged and preparing, and the encouraging outlook, for you to make provision for organizing the Shanghai Annual Conference, within the four years next following. The same provision might safely be made for the Central Mexican Mission, where we now have eleven hundred and fifty members, thirty-two native preachers, and twenty-three day-schools, besides Sunday-schools.

A new chapter is to be written in this connection. That timely auxiliary, the Woman's Missionary Society, correlated by the General Conference four years ago, has done well, and justified the recognition then made. So far as results have appeared, its affairs have been managed efficiently, economically, and judiciously. The management has adhered to the line of collection and disbursement prescribed by law, and instead of lessening the amount flowing by ordinary channels into the treasury of the Missionary Board, it is our opinion that the money reported by the Woman's Missionary Society

is a clear gain. By their excellent monthly paper useful information has been circulated, and by their personal efforts the zeal for Missions has been generally quickened. The Society has sent out five well-chosen missionaries—two to China, one to Brazil, and two to the Mexican Border Mission—who coöperate with the Board of Missions harmoniously in their respective fields as teachers. The Society is also building at Laredo, an important station on the Rio Grande, a boarding-school for girls, and its agents are occupying two such school-buildings, erected by its own funds, in China. Ground has been secured, and plans made for a girls' boarding-school in Piracicaba, Brazil. Money raised to date, \$64,910. Their *Missionary Advocate* has paid its own expenses, and brought \$1,000 into the Society's treasury. We are advised that a memorial will be sent up requesting certain readjustments of the Society to the Board of Missions, and to its own recognized field of operations. It is needless that we recommend it to your most cordial and prompt consideration.

An organization without complex machinery, simple but efficient, and of Connectional extent, by which the strong could help the weak in the work of Church extension, would meet a want that has found a general expression among our people. The Missionary Board cannot conveniently aid feeble societies in new settlements in securing suitable houses of worship, and thus occupying new stations. This is aside from its main purpose, and, in the opinion of some, trenches upon its constitutional powers.

It is with pleasure we notice the increase of parsonages, both in number and quality. A home for the itinerant's family is essential to the thorough maintenance of the itinerant system. We advise, in order to promote this interest, and to avoid misunderstanding, that you provide a method by which a common property in the parsonage may be equitably divided when it becomes necessary to divide the pastoral charge.

The Sunday-school Department has made progress during the past four years. The increase in the number of schools is over 2,000, and of pupils 71,000. There are now 9,310 schools, 62,442 teachers, 462,321 pupils—increase last year 21,707.

The Sunday-school Literature has been improved in quality, reduced in price, and increased in circulation. In 1878 the aggregate circulation was 250,000 monthly issues; it is now over 400,000. Several new books and catechisms have been published, adding to the general Sunday-school catalogue. The *Sunday School Magazine* has been increased from thirty-two pages to forty-eight pages, and reduced in price from

one dollar to fifty cents. As the financial condition of the Publishing House improves, plans should be matured for enlarging the operations of this department. No part of our Church-work is more prosperous and promising. The Church and the Sunday-school are drawing closer together. Pastors and Quarterly Conferences are coming into their true relations to it. Greater attention is being given to doctrinal teaching. Juvenile missionary societies have increased in numbers and efficiency. And, best of all, revivals of religion frequently begin in the Sunday-school, which reach to the Church and community. The increase in Church-membership from this source has been noteworthy.

Last May, in pursuance of a request made by the Sunday-school Editor, about twenty Conference Sunday-school Secretaries met in Nashville, and continued in session for three days. These representative men, from as many Annual Conferences, consulted on matters pertaining to the conduct and development of the Sunday-school; and their suggestions will be submitted to your consideration.

Not a few of our Sunday-schools are afflicted with an irresponsible literature, teaching erroneous and strange doctrines, or no doctrines at all, imposed upon them by various devices. This ought not so to be. The General Conference would do a timely service for catechetical instruction in the family, the Sunday-school, and the Church at large, by creating a commission to revise the Catechisms in use among us, and to prepare a graded system, suited to all, from the Infant to the Bible Class, to be published under suitable regulations. We believe that we hold the truth, and duty and safety require us to teach it, and to teach it to all. A thorough inculcation of our doctrines and polity would promote stability and robustness of spiritual life, alike in the young and the old.

The condition of our Publishing House has been materially changed, and for the better, since the General Conference last had its affairs under consideration. The wisdom of clothing the Book Committee with powers adequate to the emergency has been vindicated. The Church is greatly indebted to that Committee—composed mostly of laymen—for the eminent patience, and skill, and fidelity with which they have served in connection with the Book Agent and the Business Manager. Their statements, in detail, will be before you; from which it will appear that four years ago the claims against the Publishing House amounted to over \$300,000, drawing interest at the rate of \$60 a day, and the liabilities exceeded the assets by more than \$100,000. The reports now show assets above liabilities by more than \$50,000, and

the remaining indebtedness in a manageable shape, being almost wholly in four per cent. bonds on long time. Also, that the manufacturing facilities of the House have been increased, and its business put on a cash basis.

These facts point to a gratifying increase in the business of the House, including the circulation of its periodicals and the manufacture and sale of religious books. The bond scheme devised by the Book Committee was responded to by the Church and its friends, business revived, confidence was restored, and the disaster which threatened us four years ago has been happily averted.

While the ministers who have been employed, both in the Agency and in the Committee, have done their duty well, as has been their custom whenever the Church called for their services, let us not forget how much we are indebted to lay agency for the redemption of the Publishing House. Lay delegates, in the committee-room at Atlanta, brought their business training and capacity to the difficult problem and put it in the way of solution, and laymen in the Book-room at Nashville gave their financial skill to working it out—and so, by the blessing of God, we have the result. This may teach us what the Church has gained, in the various enterprises which admit of it, by calling into her councils the coöperation of her laity.

A publishing house conducted by the Church is not a mercantile, but chiefly a moral, scheme. It must be conducted on business principles, but for religious ends. We trust the day is not far distant when the ideal shall be realized of a Christian literature, published under the guarantee of a competent supervision, cheap, and widely diffused. The issues of our press must supplant those of infidelity and vice by their cheapness as well as their value—by their accessibility as well as their purity. To this consummation let us tend constantly and as rapidly as our recuperating Publishing House can bear it. The Church, to be justified in engaging in a work having so many secular aspects, must keep the religious function steadily and prominently in view. Printed truth, like preached truth, must reach the people—the poor as well as the rich. It is printed to be read, and it is read to do good—to enlarge the heart, to enlighten the mind, to quicken the conscience, and to sanctify the soul. Cheapness, in order to its circulation, is a prime quality. The Connection has a monopoly of valuable publications, and also, within a certain sphere, of an extensive book and periodical trade. This advantage, created by it and justly belonging to it, should inure to the benefit of its literature, and be so used as to bring down the price within reach of all. And while local inter-

ests and private enterprises not having the same facilities must be allowed their full liberty and mission, we submit that no protective legislation in their behalf should be allowed to defeat the Church in one of the principal objects contemplated in publishing religious books and periodicals.

Our educational institutions have had an unequal prosperity. Some have enjoyed munificent gifts from abroad, and others have languished for the support at home to which they were entitled. High schools, under the care of District Conferences, were brought to your attention in our last Address; and their success in portions of the Connection is not only a gratifying fact, but a suggestion of enlargement in this direction. No doubt, colleges and universities have been undertaken too often among us without counting the cost of their erection, equipment, and maintenance. The consequences have been such as are not pleasant to contemplate—harassing debts, ill-paid Faculties, and sometimes a lowered curriculum, followed by a lingering death. It would, we think, be in the interest of higher Christian education if a sentiment should grow up among us discouraging new enterprises of this sort until those we have are endowed sufficiently at least to insure their stability. The provision made by civil and municipal governments for lessening the illiteracy of the masses does not interfere with the work the Church proposes to do. Methodism cannot remit the higher education of her children to other Churches, or to the State. Without entering into the question of the moral right of taxation in order to carry free education for all to this point, the Methodist Church has found her safety and her spiritual profit in cherishing academies and colleges for our youth of both sexes. It is possible we have been too sensitive to the appearance or the charge of sectarianism in this matter. Not negative but positive results are sought, and these alone can justify the Church in entering this field. Moral unity in our teaching and governing forces, and a pronounced religious influence exerted upon pupils, would be consistent with detailing so many of our able ministers every year to this department, and with the amount of money collected, and the large attention bestowed in our ecclesiastical assemblies on this cause.

As authorized and directed by the last General Conference, we took measures to have our branch of Methodism represented in the Ecumenical Conference, which met in City Road Chapel, London, September 7-20, 1881. Thirty-eight of the four-hundred delegates constituting that body were allotted to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and there were present thirty-six. Of the proceedings of that delegated

Conference of the Methodist branch of the Catholic Church, embracing about five million members, we need not speak particularly, since they have been published in a volume, and widely circulated. The hospitality and liberal provision of our English brethren were equal to the demands of the occasion. They left nothing undone for the comfort of their guests or the success of the Conference. It was an epochal event. In that historic place, the various families of Wesleyan Methodism throughout the world realized their substantial unity, reasserted their cardinal principles, took account of their forces, surveyed the fields to be occupied and the work to be done, and exchanged views as to the best method of doing it; and, after two weeks of harmonious deliberation and edifying fellowship, they repaired to their various climes and countries to carry on the work of God.

Before another session of this body, the first hundred years since Methodism in America was formally organized will be completed. Its proper celebration would be a means of grace. The last General Conference took tentative action on this subject, but it remains for you to act more definitely. It might be well for this body not only to take advanced steps for concerted action in this direction with our brethren of other Churches, but to designate the objects upon which the liberality of the people may be directed, on that centenary occasion, in their thank-offerings. The centenary of the organization of American Methodism is an event too rich in suggestion, and too important in its bearings on the religion and civilization of our land, to pass without suitable celebration.

We have before called your attention to the undue facility with which supernumeraries and superannuates are made. This evil has been partially checked in the Annual Conferences by their using more than formerly the law for locating inefficient, unacceptable, or secular preachers. These relations, however, are too often loosely, if not abusively, employed to keep men nominally in the itinerant ranks who have rendered little service there, and who in time share a stipend with aged and worn-out ministers who have borne the burden and heat of the day. The sympathies of brethren sometimes so overcome their judgments as to put on the superannuated list men who have not graduated to elder's orders. This practice, in our opinion, reacts damagingly upon the collections for this worthy class of claimants, works injustice to those who really have claims upon this fund, and discourages active laborers from continuing in the regular work until they are worn out. If a remedy for these evils, capable of general application, could be devised, it would be a timely service.

The journals of all the Annual Conferences will be submitted to your supervision. As Executive Officers of the Church, charged with seeing that the laws are carried out, it is a gratification to us to know that in this authentic way our administration, in every part, is to be brought to the notice of its highest judicatory, and thus any errors may be corrected.

Our observation is that the business conduct and the journals of the Annual Conferences have been improved by this periodical scrutiny of their official records on the part of a superior body. A like improvement, and one much needed, would be realized to the Quarterly Conferences if the law were more specific which gives the District Conference authority to supervise their records. It would take a few steps more, and be according to the genius of our system, to complete the plan of supervision by having the records of the Church Conferences, and the manner of keeping registries, supervised annually by the Quarterly Conference, and the records of the District Conferences supervised by the Annual Conference.

The negro population of the South and South-west, upon which our Church in time past bestowed much labor, but which for several years has been turned away from us, is again becoming accessible to our influence. Opportunities to preach to their congregations should be diligently improved. The Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, organized by us a decade ago at the request of the remnant of our colored membership, has maintained its integrity, and made some progress. They are in great need of facilities for providing themselves with suitable pastors and teachers of their own race. Whatever assistance we can render them, in this respect especially, will be well bestowed; and we invite to this subject your favorable consideration.

We have little legislation to recommend. The great body of the ministry and membership are thoroughly in accord with the doctrines, usages, and polity of our Church; and our relations with other ecclesiastical organizations were never more satisfactory. Not statute law, but life, and life more abundantly, is the want of our day. A low spiritual experience is the greatest danger of Methodism. Whatever you can do to promote personal, family, and social religion will prove our best defense against the enemies that war against the soul. Let our existing laws be judiciously and faithfully administered, and it will be found that persons who live in the violation of their baptismal covenant cannot live within the Church.

We have been able to preside at all the sessions of the Annual Conferences except five. The number of effective Superintendents, the

extent of territory, and the general preference for fall sessions, which we endeavored to gratify, have not afforded the best conditions for our visitations. Spring sessions are not without advantage for an Annual Conference, and we observe with pleasure a growing sentiment that will enable us to make a distribution of sessions through a longer time, without violent change. You see our lessened number, and how time has dealt with some that remain. Two of our beloved colleagues are not, for God has taken them. Bishop Doggett died in Richmond, October 29, 1880; Bishop Wightman died in Charleston, February 15, 1882. They were the sons of Methodism, born at her altars. As her servants, they filled every office and post where labor is required or honor bestowed. Their characters illustrated the doctrines they preached. They rest from their labors, and their works do follow them. You anticipate us in the recommendation of an addition to the College of Bishops: it cannot be longer postponed. Our judgment is that with the addition of three men, such as you will elect, the Episcopal work of the Church can be done for the next four years.

“Now, the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.”

R. PAINE,
G. F. PIERCE,
H. H. KAVANAUGH,
H. N. McTYEIRE,
J. C. KEENER.

Bishop Pierce took the Chair.

The venerable senior Bishop Paine then read to the Conference the following paper:

To the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South:

DEAR BRETHREN:—While joining heartily with my colleagues in the address you have heard, I beg your indulgence to make a few remarks of a personal character.

During nearly sixty-five years I have had the honor of being an itinerant Methodist preacher, and for thirty-six years a Bishop. In the General Conference of 1824 I was a delegate, and, as Bishop or delegate, have attended every session since then. For the confidence in my reliability, indicated by these facts, I wish now to return my most earnest gratitude. To my much-respected colleagues in the Episcopacy, between whom and myself the utmost cordial feelings

have been unvaryingly maintained, I tender my thanks. They have generously supplied my lack of service by doing double duty.

And now, beloved brethren, worn down with age and infirmities, I ask to be permitted to retire from future active service. Permit me, in conclusion, to congratulate you upon the auspicious circumstances under which you have met, and to remind you of your high responsibility to God and his Church.

Should it be allowed me, in making this, probably my last communication to a General Conference, to express the results of my experience and observations as to the doctrines and policy of our beloved Methodism, I would say, after devoting a life-time to the study of its doctrines, my conviction as to their scripturalness has strengthened, and my estimation of the importance of maintaining the essential features of its polity has increased.

I do most devoutly thank God that in early life I became a Methodist itinerant preacher, and have continued such. But above all, I rejoice in the religious experience which Methodism presents as the privilege of its members, "the joy unspeakable and full of glory."

To enjoy this, is the crowning glory of the Christian life. I rejoice in a thorough conversion, consciously attested by the witnessing Spirit, a pure and consecrated daily life, and its end—if it can be properly said ever to end—the crown of glory that fadeth not away. For this culmination I shall beg calmly and with humble confidence to wait until the pains and infirmities of this life shall pass away. There may we meet again.

At the conclusion of this affecting address, the Conference sung a few verses of the familiar hymn,

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound.

After a few feeling remarks, J. B. McFerrin moved to refer the address of Bishop Paine to the Committee on Episcopacy.

Bishop Pierce said, in response to Bishop Paine:

BELOVED BROTHER:—Your colleagues and brethren rejoice to see you among them. We consider your presence a benediction. It seems to me to be a beautiful providence that you should have commenced your itinerant career sixty-five years ago at this very point, and that after concluding that circle of labors you are here in the presence of your brethren, asking of them retirement from active service. Bless God that he has given to us your service so long, that he has spared you to attend this Conference. But, while you cannot go forth in the Master's work, we may profit by your counsel, and rejoice in Christian fellowship with you. We do bless God that now, in the sunset of your

life, you are among us, and we ask him to help and sanctify you, and that when your sun shall go down you will pass into that heaven made glorious by the memories of the past and the joys of the future. God bless you.

The following resolutions were then offered and adopted:

Resolved, 1. That the quadrennial Address of the Bishops be received, and that the various matters treated of be referred to the appropriate standing committees.

2. That the communication of Bishop Paine be referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

J. S. KEY,

J. W. HINTON.

On motion of W. M. Rush, the Rules of Order in force at the last General Conference were adopted for the present.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. The Conference shall meet at 9 o'clock A.M., and adjourn at 1 P.M., but may alter the times of meeting and adjournment at their discretion.

2. The President shall take the chair precisely at the hour to which the Conference stood adjourned, and cause the same to be opened by reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer; and, on the appearance of a quorum, shall have the journals of the preceding day read and approved, when the business of the Conference shall proceed in the following order—viz.:

(1) Reports of the standing committees.

(2) Reports of the select committees.

(3) Petitions, memorials, and appeals.

3. The President shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Conference; but in case of such appeal, the question shall be taken without debate.

4. He shall appoint all committees, not otherwise specially ordered by the Conference; but any member may decline serving on more than one committee at the same time.

5. All motions and resolutions introduced by any member shall be reduced to writing, if the President, Secretary, or any two members request it.

6. A member presenting any petition, memorial, or other paper which should go to a standing committee, shall name the committee to which he would have it referred, and if there be no objection, it shall be so referred without a vote; and all such petitions, memorials, and papers shall be presented in duplicate.

7. Committees recommending changes of the Discipline shall recite not only the page, chapter, and section proposed to be amended, but also the paragraph as amended.

8. When a motion or resolution is made and seconded, or a report presented, and is read by the Secretary, or stated by the President, it shall be deemed in possession of the Conference; but any motion or resolution may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before decision or amendment.

9. No new motion or resolution shall be made until the one under consideration is disposed of, which may be done by adoption or rejection, unless one of the following motions shall intervene, which motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are placed—viz.: Indefinite postponement, laying on the table, reference to a committee, postponement to a given time, amendment or a substitute: *provided*, that a motion to lay on the table shall be put without debate.

10. No member shall be interrupted when speaking, except by the President, to call him to order when he departs from the question, or uses personalities or disrespectful language; but any member may call the attention of the President to the subject when he deems a speaker out of order, and any member may explain if he thinks himself misrepresented.

11. When any member is about to speak in debate, or to deliver any matter to the Conference, he shall rise from his seat and respectfully address himself to the President.

12. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question nor more than fifteen minutes at one time, without leave of the Conference; nor shall any member speak more than once until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

13. When any motion or resolution shall have passed, it shall be in order for any member who voted in the majority to move for a reconsideration.

14. No member shall absent himself from the service of the Conference without leave, unless he be sick or unable to attend.

15. No member shall be allowed to vote on any question who is not within the bar at the time when such question is put by the President, except by leave of the Conference, when such member has been necessarily absent.

16. Every member who shall be within the bar at the time the question is put shall give his vote, unless the Conference, for special reasons, excuse him.

17. No resolution altering or rescinding any rule of Discipline shall

be adopted until it shall have been at least one day in the possession of the Conference.

18. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate.

19. Whenever a member shall move that "the question shall now be put," the vote on such motion shall be taken without debate; and if two-thirds of the members voting shall sustain the call, the President shall put the question then pending, and the vote shall be taken immediately, without debate; and if the pending question shall be an amendment or substitute, and shall be rejected, the President shall then put the main question, and the vote shall be taken on that, without debate.

20. Whenever a change in the Discipline shall be proposed, the section, chapter, or paragraph in which it occurs, and also the proposed change, shall be printed in the *Daily Advocate*.

On motion of W. M. Rush, the Conference agreed that the selection of sittings should be made at the meeting of the delegations this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

The following resolutions were offered and adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee on Introductions be appointed by the Chair, to consist of three clerical and three lay delegates:

J. E. EVANS,

N. T. LUPTON.

Resolved, That the following select committees be ordered by the Conference, to consist of five delegates each, to be appointed by the College of Bishops:

1. On Bible Cause.
2. On Temperance.
3. On Fraternal Correspondence.
4. On Centenary of American Methodism.

A. M. SHIPP.

N. T. LUPTON.

On motion of E. R. Hendrix, so much of the Episcopal Address as relates to the Centenary of American Methodism was referred to the special committee upon that subject.

On motion of D. R. McAnally,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed, consisting of one member from each Annual Conference, to be called the Committee on Church Extension.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the Conference adjourned, to meet at 4 o'clock P.M.

After the doxology was sung, the benediction was pronounced by Bishop Pierce.

Wednesday Afternoon, May 3, 1882.

Conference met at 4 o'clock, Bishop Pierce in the chair.

Hymn 502, "Loving Jesus, gentle Lamb," was sung, and prayer offered by D. R. McAnally.

The Minutes of the morning session were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop McTyeire announced the following committees:

On Centenary of American Methodism.—E. R. Hendrix, J. S. Key, J. C. Granbery, E. B. Prettyman, R. W. Jones.

On Introductions.—E. E. Wiley, J. E. Evans, W. V. Tudor, S. H. Dent, W. H. Foster, John A. Carter.

On Bible Cause.—H. F. Johnson, A. B. Stark, J. R. N. Bell, S. W. Brents, H. V. Philpott.

On Fraternal Correspondence.—A. M. Shipp, W. C. Doub, W. H. Potter, Guilford Jones, J. W. Tucker.

On Temperance.—W. M. Rush, J. H. Carlisle, H. Jewell, T. L. Boswell, M. N. Shive.

The following standing committees were nominated by their respective delegations, and confirmed by the Conference:

STANDING COMMITTEES.

| CONFERENCES. | EPISCOPACY. | ITINERANCY. | REVISAL. |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Alabama, | O. R. Blue, | W. A. McCarty, | R. H. Powell, |
| Arkansas, | S. H. Babcock, | S. H. Babcock, | J. W. Jones, |
| Baltimore, | A. W. Wilson, | S. Rogers, | R. Smithson, |
| Columbia, | J. R. N. Bell, | J. R. N. Bell, | J. R. N. Bell, |
| Denver, | A. H. Quillian, | A. H. Quillian, | A. H. Quillian, |
| East Texas, | John Adams, | John Adams, | S. W. Turner, |
| Florida, | C. E. Dowman, | F. Pasco, | F. Pasco, |
| German Mission, | J. B. A. Ahrens, | J. B. A. Ahrens, | J. B. A. Ahrens, |
| Holston, | E. E. Wiley, | F. Richardson, | W. B. Aston, |
| Illinois, | C. C. Mayhew, | S. Carpenter, | S. Carpenter, |
| Indiana, | J. Ditzler, | J. Ditzler, | J. Ditzler, |
| Indian Mission, | Young Ewing, | G. B. Hester, | Young Ewing, |
| Kentucky, | C. W. Miller, | H. P. Walker, | H. P. Walker, |
| Little Rock, | H. Jewell, | E. N. Watson, | W. H. Browning, |
| Los Angeles, | T. R. Curtis, | T. R. Curtis, | Albert Oglesby, |
| Louisiana, | C. W. Carter, | L. Parker, | B. F. Alexander, |
| Louisville, | B. M. Messick, | H. C. Morrison, | H. C. Settle, |
| Memphis, | Guilford Jones, | R. A. Mahon, | T. L. Boswell, |
| Mississippi, | H. F. Johnson, | C. G. Andrews, | W. L. C. Hunnicutt, |
| Missouri, | W. M. Rush, | J. D. Vincil, | B. H. Spencer, |
| Montana, | L. B. Stateler, | L. B. Stateler, | L. B. Stateler, |
| North Alabama, | Anson West, | J. A. Thompson, | J. A. Thompson, |
| North Carolina, | N. H. D. Wilson, | B. Craven, | H. D. Hudson, |
| North Georgia, | W. H. Potter, | Wier Boyd, | J. E. Evans, |
| North Mississippi, | Amos Kendall, | E. H. Moore, | T. W. Dye, |
| North Texas, | John H. McLean, | F. H. Welch, | W. H. Hughes, |
| North-west Texas, | William Price, | C. E. Brown, | A. Davis, |
| Pacific, | O. P. Fitzgerald, | T. H. B. Anderson, | W. B. Brown, |
| South Carolina, | A. M. Shipp, | W. P. Mouzon, | O. A. Darby, |
| South Georgia, | J. W. Hixon, | J. B. McGehee, | T. T. Christian, |
| South-west Missouri, | M. M. Pugh, | W. M. Prottzman, | N. Scarritt, |
| St. Louis, | D. R. McAnally, | W. V. Tudor, | D. R. McAnally, |
| Tennessee, | J. B. McFerrin, | J. W. Hanner, | J. D. Barbee, |

| CONFERENCES. | EPISCOPACY. | ITINERANCY. | REVISAL. |
|--|--|---|---|
| Texas, Virginia, Western, Western Virginia, West Texas, White River, Chairmen, Secretaries, | I. G. John, W. W. Bennett, H. D. Hogan, F. B. Carroll, M. N. Shive, Josephus Anderson, W. W. Bennett, J. W. Hinton. | H. V. Philpott, J. E. Edwards, H. D. Hogan, T. S. Wade, A. H. Sutherland, J. H. Dye, J. S. Martin, J. A. Thompson. | H. V. Philpott, P. A. Peterson, H. D. Hogan, T. S. Wade, W. J. Joyce, J. H. Dye, P. A. Peterson, H. V. Philpott. |

| CONFERENCES. | SUNDAY-SCHOOLS. | MISSIONS. | BOUNDARIES. |
|---|--|--|--|
| Alabama, Arkansas, Baltimore, Columbia, Denver, East Texas, Florida, German Mission, Holston, Illinois, Indiana, Indian Mission, Kentucky, Little Rock, Los Angeles, Louisiana, Louisville, Memphis, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, North Alabama, North Carolina, North Georgia, North Mississippi, North Texas, North-west Texas, Pacific, South Carolina, South Georgia, South-west Missouri, St. Louis, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Western, Western Virginia, West Texas, White River, Chairmen, Secretaries, | F. Law, J. W. Jones, T. J. Magruder, J. R. N. Bell, I. Brinker, H. Twomey, T. Turnbull, J. B. A. Ahrens, W. G. E. Cunningham, S. Carpenter, J. W. Smith, G. B. Hester, T. L. Given, W. S. Jeter, T. R. Curtis, W. H. Foster, S. W. Brents, A. G. Hawkins, C. S. Stewart, P. P. Ellis, L. B. Stateler, J. H. Harris, T. M. Jones, R. M. McIntosh, R. W. Jones, Young Burgher, W. W. Treadwell, O. P. Fitzgerald, J. H. Carlisle, Isaac Hardeman, T. M. Cobb, Samuel Cupples, C. J. Moody, B. D. Orgain, L. L. Marks, W. H. H. Adams, John McIntosh, M. N. Shive, George Thornburg, J. H. Carlisle, R. W. Jones. | R. B. Crawford, S. H. Babcock, S. Rogers, J. R. N. Bell, A. H. Quillian, H. Twomey, J. W. Tucker, J. B. A. Ahrens, E. W. Moore, C. C. Mayhew, J. Ditzler, G. B. Hester, J. W. Fitch, Horace Jewell, T. R. Curtis, A. S. Helmick, W. S. Johnson, A. R. Wilson, C. B. Galloway, T. D. Woodson, L. B. Stateler, E. A. Powell, H. T. Hudson, A. G. Haygood, T. A. S. Adams, J. M. Binkley, Horace Bishop, T. H. B. Anderson, H. H. Newton, J. S. Key, N. Scarritt, W. V. Tudor, D. C. Kelley, B. D. Orgain, George M. Bain, H. D. Hogan, J. McIntosh, A. H. Sutherland, Josephus Anderson, D. C. Kelley, J. W. Tucker. | P. G. Wood, B. H. Greathouse, J. S. Gardner, J. R. N. Bell, I. Brinker, S. W. Turner, T. Turnbull, J. B. A. Ahrens, J. W. Paulett, C. C. Mayhew, J. W. Smith, G. B. Hester, J. W. Proctor, C. A. Gantt, A. Oglesby, A. C. Mitchell, G. R. Browder, W. T. Harris, Irvin Miller, T. Shackelford, L. B. Stateler, L. M. Wilson, L. S. Burkhead, W. M. Sessions, H. W. Foote, W. H. Hughes, J. D. Shaw, W. B. Brown, W. T. D. Cousar, W. I. Green, N. Scarritt, C. C. Moore, G. G. Dibrell, B. D. Orgain, J. D. Blackwell, H. D. Hogan, T. S. Wade, A. H. Sutherland, D. B. Warren, G. R. Browder, Irvin Miller. |

| CONFERENCES. | EDUCATION. | PUBLISHING INTERESTS. | CHURCH EXTENSION. |
|--|--|---|--|
| Alabama, Arkansas, Baltimore, Columbia, Denver, East Texas, Florida, German Mission, Holston, Illinois, Indiana, Indian Mission, Kentucky, Little Rock, Los Angeles, Louisiana, Louisville, Memphis, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, | J. T. Harris, J. W. Jones, W. P. Harrison, J. R. N. Bell, Isaac Brinker, S. W. Turner, C. E. Dowman, J. B. A. Ahrens, J. S. Kennedy, C. C. Mayhew, J. W. Smith, G. B. Hester, J. C. Cooper, E. N. Watson, A. Oglesby, C. W. Carter, A. B. Stark, W. A. Tanner, C. G. Andrews, E. R. Hendrix, L. B. Stateler, | S. H. Dent, Frank Parke, Jesse B. Wilson, J. R. N. Bell, Isaac Brinker, S. W. Davis, J. W. Tucker, J. B. A. Ahrens, J. W. Gant, S. Carpenter, J. W. Smith, G. B. Hester, J. W. Proctor, A. R. Hazen, A. Oglesby, W. H. Foster, W. E. Parrish, J. T. Irion, S. B. Watts, E. K. Miller, L. B. Stateler, | J. W. Portis, Frank Parke, E. B. Prettyman, J. R. N. Bell, A. H. Quillian, John Adams, J. W. Tucker, J. B. A. Ahrens, T. P. Summers, C. C. Mayhew, J. Ditzler, G. B. Hester, R. Hiner, W. H. Browning, T. R. Curtis, B. F. Alexander, J. A. Carter, L. D. Mullins, H. F. Johnson, P. H. Perkins, L. B. Stateler, |

| CONFERENCES. | EDUCATION. | PUBLISHING INTERESTS. | CHURCH EXTENSION. |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| North Alabama, | M. C. Baldridge, | W. B. Wood, | Anson West, |
| North Carolina, | R. T. Gray, | W. S. Black, | W. C. Doub, |
| North Georgia, | W. F. Cook, | H. H. Parks, | H. J. Adams, |
| North Mississippi, | G. D. Shands, | J. M. Wells, | S. A. Steele, |
| North Texas, | W. A. Allen, | J. M. Binkley, | J. W. Fulton, |
| North-west Texas, | B. A. Philpott, | D. H. Snyder, | J. R. Henry, |
| Pacific, | T. H. B. Anderson, | O. P. Fitzgerald, | W. F. Goad, |
| South Carolina, | W. W. Duncan, | S. B. Jones, | F. A. Connor, |
| South Georgia, | G. R. Glenn, | E. M. Butt, | J. S. Key, |
| South-west Missouri, | W. C. Godbey, | G. M. Jones, | W. M. Prottzman, |
| St. Louis, | J. C. Moore, | Samuel Cupples, | D. R. McAnally, |
| Tennessee, | N. T. Lupton, | Jordan Stokes, | William Burr, |
| Texas, | H. V. Philpott, | J. T. Swearingen, | J. T. Swearingen, |
| Virginia, | R. N. Sledd, | W. W. Walker, | R. Irby, |
| Western, | W. H. H. Adams, | W. H. H. Adams, | H. D. Hogan, |
| Western Virginia, | W. C. Ireland, | W. C. Ireland, | F. B. Carroll, |
| West Texas, | W. J. Joyce, | M. N. Shive, | W. J. Joyce, |
| White River, | D. B. Warren, | George Thornburg, | Josephus Anderson, |
| Chairmen, | W. P. Harrison, | W. W. Walker, | D. R. McAnally, |
| Secretaries, | W. F. Cook, | S. H. Dent, | L. D. Mullins. |

On motion of M. M. Pugh, the Conference adjourned. Benediction by Bishop Pierce.

Thursday Morning, May 4, 1882.

Conference met at 9 o'clock, Bishop Pierce in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by H. H. Parks.

The Minutes of yesterday afternoon's session were read, corrected, and approved.

The following delegates, absent on yesterday, were reported present, and took their seats:

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: J. C. Cooper.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: A. S. Helmick.

NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: A. Davis; *Lay*: D. H. Snyder.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: William Hust, alternate for C. J. Moody.

WHITE RIVER CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Josephus Anderson.

Bishop Kavanaugh, took the chair, and called for petitions, memorials, and appeals.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—R. B. Crawford presented the appeal of A. J. Briggs from the action of the Alabama Conference, suspending him from the ministry. The Conference entertained the appeal; and, on motion, it was resolved that the Chair appoint a Committee on Appeals.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial on the subject of boundaries, presented, and referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

DENVER CONFERENCE.—A memorial presented, and referred to the Committee on Revisal; also one concerning Church extension, referred to the Committee on Church Extension.

INDIANA CONFERENCE.—A memorial relating to missions, referred to the Committee on Missions.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—A memorial concerning District trustees, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—A memorial on Church extension, referred to the Committee on Church Extension.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—The appeal of Louis Kendall from the action of the Mississippi Conference, expelling him, was entertained by the General Conference.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—A memorial on boundaries, referred to the Committee on Boundaries; and one on changes in the Discipline, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—A memorial proposing a change in the Discipline, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—The appeal of J. C. Parish from the action of the Conference, suspending him, was entertained.

NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial relating to episcopacy, referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial on boundaries, referred to the Committee on Boundaries; and one on Church extension, referred to the Committee on Church Extension.

WHITE RIVER CONFERENCE.—A memorial on temperance, referred to the Committee on Temperance; and one on boundaries, referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

P. A. Peterson presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That daily, immediately after the call for memorials, the roll of Conferences shall be called for resolutions and other papers which the members wish to submit and have referred to the standing committees, and that the call begin now.

J. B. McFerrin, Book Agent of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, presented his Report, together with the Reports of the Book Committee and the Business Manager of the Publishing House. During the reading of these Reports, the hour of adjournment arrived. The time of the session was extended, on motion, and the reading concluded.

The Reports were referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

The following telegram was read:

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 4, 1882.

Bishop McTyeire, General Conference, Nashville, Tenn.:—The Colored Methodist Episcopal General Conference, in session here, authorize me to bear official greetings.

SAMUEL K. COX.

The Conference directed the Secretaries to send a suitable reply, which was as follows:

The General Conference of the M. E. Church, South, received, with much pleasure, the fraternal greetings of the Colored Methodist Episcopal General Conference. We are authorized to send reciprocal expressions of greeting.

THOS. O. SUMMERS,

JOHN D. VINCIL,

WM. M. LEFTWICH,

Secretaries.

The Conference adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Keener.

Friday Morning, May 5, 1882.

Conference met at 9 A.M., Bishop Kavanaugh in the chair.

Religious service by John E. Edwards.

The Minutes of yesterday's session were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop McTyeire took the chair.

The following delegates appeared and took their seats:

INDIAN MISSION CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: Young Ewing.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: C. B. Galloway.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: T. D. Woodson.

NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: B. A. Philpott.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: O. A. Darby.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: G. R. Glenn.

SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: J. R. Willis.

WESTERN CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: W. H. H. Adams.

The following changes were made in the standing committees:

INDIAN MISSION CONFERENCE.—Young Ewing takes the place of G. B. Hester on Episcopacy, Revisal, and Appeals.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—G. H. Hayes takes the place of G. R. Browder on Appeals.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—A. D. Bright takes the place of A. R. Wilson on Appeals.

A communication was received from Dr. Eben S. Stearns, Chancellor of the State Normal College, inviting the officers and members of the Conference to attend the dedication of the new chapel of the college, at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

On motion of W. W. Bennett, the invitation was accepted.

J. B. McFerrin, Book Agent, presented a paper relating to the bequest of Mrs. Kent, which was referred to the Committee on Missions; also, a paper relating to the bequest of J. T. Colvin, which was referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

J. B. McFerrin presented a report, stating that in the Exhibit of the Publishing House an item of "suspended assets" appeared, which amount—\$266.17 (two hundred and sixty-six dollars and seventeen cents)—had been paid to him, as Book Agent, by John Whiteman, of Philadelphia, it being a balance due the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, under the action of the General Conference of 1844, dividing the property of the Methodist Episcopal Church. This amount remained uncollected for many years, under the head of "suspended assets" belonging to the "Chartered Fund."

The report was referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

The standing committees announced their chairmen, as follows:

Episcopacy.—W. W. Bennett.

Itinerancy.—J. S. Martin.

Boundaries.—G. R. Browder.

Sunday-schools.—J. H. Carlisle.

Publishing Interests.—W. W. Walker.

Missions.—D. C. Kelley.

Revisal.—P. A. Peterson.

Education.—W. P. Harrison.

Church Extension.—D. R. McAnally.

B. Craven and J. J. Tigert were elected Assistant Secretaries.

The Committee on Appeals, having been announced by Bishop McCtyeire, is here given as it stood after the foregoing changes had been made; and, for convenience of reference, the Committee on Finance, appointed during this day's session:

| CONFERENCES. | APPEALS. | FINANCE. |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Alabama, | W. A. McCarty, | T. F. Mangum, |
| Arkansas, | B. H. Greathouse, | B. H. Greathouse, |
| Baltimore, | J. S. Gardner, | John G. Cox, |
| Columbia, | J. R. N. Bell, | J. R. N. Bell, |
| Denver, | A. H. Quillian, | I. Brinker, |
| East Texas, | John Adams, | W. W. Davis, |
| Florida, | C. E. Dowman, | T. O. Turnbull, |
| German Mission, | J. B. A. Ahrens, | J. B. A. Ahrens, |
| Holston, | W. B. Aston, | P. Gallagher, |
| Illinois, | C. C. Mayhew, | S. Carpenter, |
| Indiana, | J. Ditzler, | J. Ditzler, |
| Indian Mission, | Young Ewing, | G. B. Hester, |
| Kentucky, | R. Hiner, | J. W. Proctor, |
| Little Rock, | E. N. Watson, | C. A. Gantt, |
| Los Angeles, | T. R. Curtis, | A. Oglesby, |
| Louisiana, | B. F. Alexander, | A. S. Helmick, |
| Louisville, | G. H. Hayes, | J. A. Carter, |
| Memphis, | A. D. Bright, | A. D. Bright, |
| Mississippi, | W. L. C. Hunnicutt, | I. Miller, |
| Missouri, | C. I. Vandeventer, | P. P. Ellis, |
| Montana, | L. B. Stateler, | L. B. Stateler, |
| North Alabama, | J. B. Stevenson, | L. M. Wilson, |
| North Carolina, | E. A. Yates, | E. J. Lilly, |
| North Georgia, | J. Boring, | C. D. McCutchen, |
| North Mississippi, | T. C. Wier, | H. W. Foote, |
| North Texas, | M. H. Neely, | J. W. Fulton, |
| North-west Texas, | Horace Bishop, | B. A. Philpott, |
| Pacific, | T. H. B. Anderson, | W. B. Brown, |

| CONFERENCES. | APPEALS. | FINANCE. |
|---|--|---|
| South Carolina, South Georgia, South-west Missouri, St. Louis, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Western, Western Virginia, West Texas, White River, Chairmen, Secretaries, | W. W. Duncan, T. T. Christian, M. M. Pugh, W. V. Tudor, W. Burr, E. S. Smith, J. D. Blackwell, H. D. Hogan, F. B. Carroll, W. J. Joyce, J. H. Dye, Bishop Keener, B. Craven. | William Stokes, J. W. Hinton, J. R. Willis, Samuel Cupples, J. B. West, J. T. Swearingen, T. B. Hamlin, W. H. H. Adams, M. N. Shive, G. Thornburg. |

W. G. E. Cunyningham, Sunday-school Editor, presented a memorial from the Convention of Conference Sunday-school Secretaries, which was read and referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

Upon the call of the Conferences for petitions, memorials, and appeals, the following were presented:

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—A memorial asking a change in the law regarding supernumerary preachers: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. Also, a memorial asking an enlargement in the duties of examining committees: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. Also, a memorial concerning a change of boundaries: referred to the Committee on Boundaries. Also, a memorial from Moorefield District on the Presiding Eldership: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

GERMAN MISSION CONFERENCE.—A memorial asking the reelection of J. B. A. Ahrens as editor, and J. A. G. Rabe as assistant editor of German periodicals: referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—A memorial asking permission to divide the Conference: referred to the Committee on Boundaries. Also, a memorial from Fayette District Conference in regard to changes in the Ritual: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a memorial from Mexico District Conference on Church extension: referred to the Committee on Church Extension.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A memorial from the Local Preachers' Conference concerning the trial of local preachers: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. Also, a memorial on the subject of missions: referred to the Committee on Missions.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—A memorial from Gainesville Station in relation to changes in the Discipline: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—A memorial asking changes in the ritual for baptism: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a memorial on Church extension: referred to the Committee on Church Extension.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—Several memorials on boundaries, referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial on boundaries, referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A memorial relating to changes in the Discipline, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

The appeal of G. W. Whitman from the decision of the South Carolina Conference was entertained.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—A memorial on the subject of boundaries, referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—A memorial relating to Sunday-schools: referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools. Also, a memorial from the Lexington District Conference on Church extension: referred to the Committee on Church Extension. Also, a memorial from the same District Conference relating to Recording Stewards: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—A memorial on changes in the Discipline, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial relating to boundaries, referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—A memorial relating to changes in the Discipline: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a memorial concerning boundaries: referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

The action of the Conference, by which the paper concerning the Colvin bequest was referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests, was reconsidered, and the paper withdrawn.

Wier Boyd was appointed on the Committee on Itinerancy instead of J. Boring.

Upon the call of Conferences, the following resolutions were presented:

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—Resolutions concerning certain changes in the Discipline, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE.—Resolutions concerning changes in the Discipline, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—Resolutions concerning missions: referred to the Committee on Missions. Also, resolutions concerning changes in the Discipline: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, resolutions relating to boundaries: referred to the Committee on Boundaries. Also, resolutions relating to the Presiding Eldership: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. Also, resolutions concerning missionaries and native preachers in foreign lands where there is no Annual Con-

ference: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. Also, resolutions relating to the number of Bishops: referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—Resolutions asking certain changes in the Discipline, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—Resolution asking certain changes in the Discipline, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—Resolution asking changes in the Discipline, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—Resolution asking changes in the Episcopal Districts, referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—Resolutions asking for action on the subject of temperance, referred to the Committee on Temperance.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—Resolution on Church extension: referred to the Committee on Church Extension. Also, resolution relating to changes in the Discipline, in regard to the decision of questions of law in the Annual and Quarterly Conferences: referred to the Committee on Episcopacy. Also, a resolution relating to the plan of reporting statistics: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—Resolutions in regard to certain changes in the Discipline: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution concerning the Hymn-book: referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—Resolutions concerning Presiding Elders and Presiding Elders' Districts, referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—Resolutions proposing changes in the Discipline, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—Resolutions asking changes in the Discipline: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, resolutions in regard to Episcopal Districts: referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—Resolution asking an increase in the number of Bishops: referred to the Committee on Episcopacy. Also, a resolution asking certain changes in the Discipline: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—Resolutions asking changes in the Discipline, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—Resolution on Church extension, referred to the Committee on Church Extension.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—A resolution on boundaries, referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—Resolutions on the examination of character in the Annual Conferences, and also a resolution on the efficiency of Episcopal oversight and supervision: referred to the Committee on Episcopacy. Also, sundry resolutions asking changes in the Discipline: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

The following resolutions were offered and adopted:

Resolved, That a standing Committee on Finance be appointed, consisting of one member from each delegation, to be nominated by the chairman of the delegation.

W. W. BENNETT,

A. D. BRIGHT.

Resolved, That Rule of Order number six be amended by adding thereto the following, viz., "and all such petitions, memorials, and papers shall be presented in duplicate."

E. B. PRETTYMAN,

RUMSEY SMITHSON,

J. G. COX.

Resolved, That so much of the Bishops' Address as relates to the revising and preparing the graduated catechism for the Church be referred to a special committee of five, to be appointed by the Bishops.

D. R. McANALLY,

W. V. TUDOR,

E. R. HENDRIX.

The following paper was presented by the Louisville Conference delegation:

In view of the fact that frequent reference is made to Dr. A. H. Redford in the Report of the Book Committee, and that he feels that injustice is done him in said Report, and though an alternate, he is not a member of this Conference, we, the representatives of his Conference, ask respectfully that he be allowed the privilege of an explanation in writing, and that his explanation be read to this Conference, and referred with the Report of the Book Committee.

B. M. MESSICK,

GEO. H. HAYES,

GEO. R. BROWDER,

H. C. MORRISON,

W. E. PARISH,

A. B. STARK,

S. W. BRENTS,

H. C. SETTLE.

After considerable discussion, on motion of S. H. Dent, the request was granted.

The following resolution was offered and referred to the Committee on Revisal:

Resolved, That the Book Editor be requested to number the para-

graphs in future editions of the Discipline, consecutively through the entire book, regardless of the divisions into chapters and sections; and also give in the index references the number of the paragraphs instead of the pages.

P. A. PETERSON,

W. W. WALKER.

A communication from James Stacy, Chairman of the Sabbath Committee of the Southern Presbyterian Church, was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence.

J. H. H. Figgatt was placed on the Committee on Boundaries, instead of J. S. Gardner.

The Conference adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop McTyeire.

Saturday Morning, May 6, 1882.

Conference assembled at the stated hour, Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

Divine service conducted by R. Hiner.

The Minutes of yesterday were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop McTyeire stated that before the Conference entered upon any business, he thought it proper that he should discharge the sad, painful duty of announcing to the Conference the death of the Secretary, Dr. Summers, which occurred exactly at six o'clock this morning, at his house at the University. There were present at his death-bed, the wife and son of Dr. Summers; Drs. Fitzgerald and Kelley, who had passed the night with him; the wife and daughter of the Chancellor; Chancellor Garland, Judge Wood, Dr. Eve, and the Bishop. The Bishop stated that the death of our honored brother was very quiet, and, as it seemed to him, painless.

"If the Lord orders, as we are told, not only the death of his servants, but the circumstances thereof, the dispensation of this providence seems merciful and loving, in permitting the wish of our brother to die, as he had often sung,

My body with my charge lay down,
And cease at once to work and live.

"Only day before yesterday he was in his place as a member and officer of this body. No man has risen up in the Church more universally known, honored, and beloved than Dr. Summers. It was meet that such a man's end should come at a time and place where the representatives of the whole Church are present.

"A member is present on the floor of this Conference who went with our deceased brother to his first circuit, in Augusta county, Virginia;

a delegation is here from the Baltimore Conference, to which he first belonged; from the Texas Conference, which he helped to organize; and from the Alabama Conference, of which he was a member at his death. Here are representatives from the Publishing House, with which he had been connected from its beginning; and here are his colleagues of the University, of which he was Dean of the Theological Faculty, and Professor of Systematic Theology. If greatness be measured by the standard of our Lord and Master, who said, 'He is greatest of all who is the servant of all,' Dr. Summers has attained unto true greatness in the Church of God."

Bishop Keener took the chair, and said:

"The Conference will pardon me if on this mournful occasion I make an allusion to myself in connection with the dear deceased. He was present when I was converted at the altar in the city of Baltimore. My eldest child was baptized by him, and we have been personal friends for forty years. But it is in respect to his official connection with our Church that I would more particularly speak. It was a good providence of God that gave us a man so thoroughly imbued as he was with Wesleyan theology, and with the hymns of Charles and John Wesley, and of Dr. Watts, to supervise our publications and the issue of works from our Church press at its beginning, and up to the present time—so that no taint of heresy might attach to our authorized Church literature. How fully he was penetrated with the lyric poetry of the Wesleys and Dr. Watts may be seen in the fact that the last words he uttered aloud in the Conference-room on day before yesterday were, 'As Dr. Watts has said—;' and here his strength failed him, so that he could not repeat the quotation.

"Dr. Summers came down to the conclusion of life not only with labors abundant, but with suffering. He illustrated that mysterious alchemy by which the Holy Spirit transmutes the groanings and agonies of life into the rich graces of the Christian. God perfected him in these sorrows, and when refined by them, took him to himself, to the immediate presence of the Master. May our last end be like his!"

Dr. Kelley said he had been with him since noon yesterday. "On the first day of the Conference he was helped to his carriage in a prostrate condition, from which he did not recover until he reached his residence. The first words he spoke after arriving were expressive of a longing to go home. From nine o'clock yesterday he had been unconscious. Last night, during a moment of returning consciousness, there came wafted through the open window the singing of 'his boys' at Wesley Hall. Like the dying war-horse at the sound of the bugle-

call, raising his head, there came over our brother's face a light which plainly indicated the response of his heart to the singing. He made a motion as if he would speak, when we put our ears close to his lips, and heard 'the faith,' repeated three times, low, but distinct. Those who knew him well know how to interpret these words. After that he was totally unconscious until his death at six o'clock this morning."

The Conference joined in singing,

Nearer, my God, to thee.

R. B. Crawford announced the illness of T. F. Mangum, of the Alabama delegation. He was granted leave of absence to wait on his afflicted brother.

O. R. Blue moved that a committee be appointed to arrange for the funeral of Dr. Summers, to be composed of one member from the Alabama delegation, one from the Publishing House, one from the Faculty of Vanderbilt University, and one from the Board of Missions.

The motion was adopted.

Dr. Lupton announced that the Faculty of Vanderbilt University had appointed a committee to meet a joint committee from the Conference to arrange a programme for the funeral exercises.

The Conference committee, as announced by the Chair, was as follows: Alabama Conference, O. R. Blue; Board of Missions, D. C. Kelley; Publishing House, J. B. McFerrin. As Vanderbilt University was already represented by a special committee, J. S. Martin, of the Baltimore Conference, was added to the Conference committee.

Arrivals were announced as follows:

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: W. W. Stringfield.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: E. A. Powell.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—*Clerical*: S. A. Steel.

SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—*Lay*: C. C. Woods.

W. B. Aston was changed from Committee on Appeals to Committee on Revisal in place of J. M. McTeer, who represents the Holston Conference in the Committee on Appeals.

On motion of J. Boring, the Conference agreed to meet at 3 o'clock this afternoon, and adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Kavanaugh.

Saturday Afternoon, May 6, 1882.

Conference met at 3 o'clock, Bishop Keener in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by Guilford Jones.

The Minutes of the morning session not being ready, the Secretary was allowed until Monday morning to complete the record.

The Rules of Order were suspended, and N. T. Lupton, from the special committee on the arrangements for the funeral of Dr. Summers, reported as follows:

The joint committee appointed by the General Conference and Vanderbilt University have made the following arrangements for the funeral services of T. O. Summers, D.D.:

The exercises will take place in the Chapel of Vanderbilt University on Sunday, May 7, at 3:30 P.M., and at the grave on the Vanderbilt grounds.

1. Bishop McTyeire will receive the corpse.
2. Dr. A. M. Shipp will read the Psalm.
3. Dr. O. R. Blue, of Alabama, will read the Epistle.
4. Dr. J. S. Martin, of the Baltimore Conference, will read the 678th hymn.
5. Bishop Kavanaugh will read the prayer.
6. Bishop Keener will deliver a Memorial Address.
7. Bishop Pierce will read the 716th hymn.
8. Dr. J. B. McFerrin and Dr. D. C. Kelley will read the Burial Service at the grave.

Pall-bearers.—Dr. L. C. Garland, of Vanderbilt University; H. A. C. Walker, of the South Carolina Conference; J. E. Evans, of the North Georgia Conference; I. G. John, of the Texas Conference; S. H. Dent, of the Alabama Conference; W. B. Wood, of the North Alabama Conference; J. E. Edwards, of the Virginia Conference; A. W. Wilson, of the Baltimore Conference; O. P. Fitzgerald, of the Pacific Conference; and twelve theological students of Vanderbilt University.

The action of the committee was approved by the Conference, which then adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Keener.

Monday Morning, May 8, 1882.

Conference met at 9 o'clock A.M., Bishop Keener in the chair.

Religious service conducted by L. Parker.

The Minutes of Saturday morning and of Saturday afternoon were read and approved.

Bishop Paine took the chair.

The following arrivals were announced:

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—*Lay:* Edgar M. Butt.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.—*Lay:* J. C. Moore.

WESTERN VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—*Lay:* W. C. Ireland.

On motion of H. J. Adams, seconded by D. R. McNally, John S.

Martin, of the Baltimore Conference, was elected Secretary, and the Assistant Secretaries were continued as heretofore.

E. W. Moore was substituted for E. E. Hoss on the Committee on Missions.

The report of the Book Agent on the Colvin bequest was referred to the Committee on Finance.

B. Craven presented the report of the committee appointed by the last General Conference on the *Quarterly Review*. It was referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

Under the call for memorials, petitions, and appeals, the following were presented:

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—A memorial on the method of apportioning Conference funds, referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial from the Quarterly Conference of the Russellville Charge on the bequest of Mary A. Tobey, referred to the Committee on Finance.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial from the five Texas Annual Conferences in relation to Episcopal supervision, referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—A memorial in relation to the boundary between the Holston and Tennessee Conferences, referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.—A memorial from West Liberty District Conference asking for a new Conference in Eastern Kentucky: referred to the Committee on Boundaries. Also, a memorial from Shelbyville District Conference asking that local preachers be made amenable to the District instead of the Quarterly Conference: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a memorial asking the appointment of evangelists: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—A petition asking a change in the Discipline so as to authorize the appointment of women as superintendents of Sunday-schools, when necessary: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a memorial from Lehi Circuit asking a change of procedure in Quarterly Conferences: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, the petition of W. W. Graham in relation to the procurement of testimony in given cases; also, another petition from the same to have Recording Stewards' books at District Conferences: both petitions were referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a petition from members of the Little Rock Conference asking that the licensing of preachers and exhorters be transferred from the

Quarterly to the District Conference: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—A petition from the Rev. William Barnett asking for payment of old claims on the Missionary Society, referred to the Committee on Missions.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—A petition relating to the celebration of the rites of matrimony between divorced persons, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A petition from the Quarterly Conference of Wills Point Station asking for a change in the name of the Church, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH-WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial from a Church Conference relating to boundaries, referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—A memorial from the Conference Board of Missions asking that the General Board of Missions consist of one member from each Annual Conference: referred to the Committee on Missions. Also, a memorial from the Annual Conference asking that no change be made in the boundaries of that Conference: referred to the Committee on Boundaries. Also, seven memorials from various places in the South-west Missouri Conference asking that the word "South" be stricken out of the name of the Church, and that the name be changed to "Episcopal Methodist Church:" referred to the Committee on Revisal.

Under the call for resolutions and papers to be referred to standing committees, the following were presented:

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—J. T. Harris and B. Philpott offered a resolution in regard to the penalty of suspension: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution signed by F. Law and J. T. Harris in regard to the distribution of the Colvin bequest among the Annual Conferences: referred to the Committee on Finance.

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—Resolutions relating to class-meetings, the election of stewards, and the appointment of class-leaders: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—A resolution signed by J. H. H. Figgatt and J. S. Gardner, proposing to make Recording Stewards *ex officio* Secretaries of Quarterly Conferences: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution signed by R. Smithson, A. W. Wilson, and S. Rodgers, proposing a change of the Discipline in regard to appellants in cases of appeal: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A resolution signed by J. Adams

and S. W. Turner to change the Discipline so that members may be dropped who fail to attend Church-meetings, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE.—C. E. Dowman and F. Pasco offered a resolution relating to a Post-graduate Course of Study, referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—J. S. Kennedy and T. P. Summers offered a resolution proposing a change in the Discipline, so that clerical and lay members of an Annual Conference shall vote together for delegates to the General Conference: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, to remove the restriction as to local preachers in the election of lay delegates to the Annual Conference; also, to remove the restriction as to local preachers in the lay delegation to the General Conference: both referred to the Committee on Revisal.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.—B. F. Alexander and P. P. Ellis offered a resolution relating to certain words in the service of ordination to deacon's orders: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution signed by B. F. Alexander, P. P. Ellis, and C. W. Carter, in relation to the appointment of preachers to seminaries of learning not under our control: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, by the same, a resolution in regard to the duties of Presiding Elders: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, by the same, a resolution relating to the duties of Recording Stewards: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, by the same, a resolution in relation to questions called in the Quarterly Conference: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, by the same, a resolution relating to receiving traveling preachers: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—A communication from A. H. Redford asking to be relieved from the charge of the Cromey debt and interest thereon, charged against his account by the Book Committee, referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—L. D. Mullins, A. G. Hawkins, A. D. Bright, J. T. Irion, and W. A. Turner, offered a resolution relating to the publication of Sunday-school papers, referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—W. L. C. Hunnicutt and S. B. Watts offered a resolution relating to a change of proceeding in the Quarterly Conference, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—Resolution offered by T. Shackelford and T. D. Woodson in regard to acts of incorporation to control donations to Conference funds, referred to the Committee on Finance.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—Anson West, S. H. Dent, and J. A. Thompson offered a resolution relating to the Minutes of the Annual Conferences, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—N. H. D. Wilson and R. T. Gray offered a resolution in regard to editors of religious newspapers: referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests. Also, a resolution signed by L. S. Burkhead, W. B. Brown, N. M. Lawrence, and E. J. Lilly, in relation to Episcopal decisions: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution signed by E. A. Yates and T. M. Jones, in relation to the Sunday-school Lesson system: referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools. Also, a resolution signed by B. Craven, relating to the division of Church-property: referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—H. J. Adams and W. A. Turner presented a resolution in regard to the length of the sessions of the Annual Conference: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution, from the same, on the supernumerary relation: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution, from the same, in relation to the superannuated relation: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution, from the same, in relation to Conference claimants: referred to the Committee on Revisal. W. F. Cook, C. W. Carter, and A. B. Stark, offered a resolution in reference to the organization of a General Conference Board of Education: referred to the Committee on Education. Also, a resolution signed by W. F. Cook and C. D. McCutchen, in relation to supernumerary preachers: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. Also, W. H. Potter and J. H. McLean offered a resolution to promote coöperation in the support of training-schools for Foreign Missions: referred to the Committee on Missions.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—W. Allen and J. M. Binkley offered a resolution to change the punctuation in the First Article of Religion: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution signed by W. Allen and W. H. Hughes, in regard to the binding of the Discipline: referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests. Also, a resolution signed by Wm. Allen, to add reference texts to the Articles of Religion: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution signed by J. H. McLean and J. D. Shaw, in relation to an Episcopal residence beyond the Mississippi River: referred to the Committee on Episcopacy. Also, a resolution signed by J. D. Shaw and D. H. Snyder, in regard to Church-schools: referred to the Committee on Education.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—Isaac Hardeman and J. W. Hin-

ton presented a resolution in regard to the privileges of appellants in cases of appeal: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—P. A. Peterson and W. S. Black presented a resolution in relation to the basis of representation in the General Conference: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A resolution from A. H. Sutherland, W. J. Joyce, and M. N. Shive, in relation to the organization of an Annual Conference in the territory of the Mexican Border Missions: referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

WHITE RIVER CONFERENCE.—J. H. Dye, R. H. Mahon, T. S. Boswell, T. W. Dye, and D. B. Warren offered a resolution on the subject of temperance: referred to the Committee on Temperance. Also, a resolution signed by G. Thornburg and D. B. Warren, on the subject of Sunday-schools: referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

R. H. Mahon presented to the Conference specimen copies of the publications of the Central Mexican Mission: referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

J. A. Thompson was substituted on the Committee on Revisal for J. B. Stevenson.

J. S. Martin presented and read the following Minute in relation to the Rev. T. O. Summers, D.D., LL.D., the late Secretary of the General Conference:

The Committee appointed to make arrangements in view of the death and funeral of the Rev. Dr. Thomas O. Summers, late Secretary of the General Conference, respectfully present the following Minute for insertion in the Journal:

A great bereavement has come upon the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, while in session in this city, in the death of the venerable Secretary, the Rev. Thomas O. Summers, D.D., LL.D. He "died in the Lord," in great peace, May 6, at 6 o'clock A.M.

Dr. Summers was born in Swanage, near Corfe Castle, Dorsetshire, England. He early experienced the power of regenerating grace—the witness of the Spirit—and early identified himself with Wesleyan Methodism, whose principles, thus early imbibed, ever after controlled his life. In March, 1835, he was admitted on trial by the Baltimore Annual Conference, at its session in Winchester, Va. In 1837 he was ordained deacon by Bishop Hedding, in the Monument Street Church, Baltimore. In 1839 he was ordained elder by Bishop Andrew, in the Light Street Church, Baltimore. The first circuit to which he was appointed was Augusta, in the Rockingham District, of which Norval Wilson was Presiding Elder. To this circuit he was returned the

second year. In 1837 he was appointed "junior preacher" to the Baltimore City Station—then embracing five churches, each requiring three sermons on the Sabbath, besides a still greater number of week-night services. This station was then served by four traveling preachers, aided by a number of local preachers, whose names were regularly printed on the "Plan of Appointments" for the year. Thus young Summers found in this station much the same plan as recognized among the Wesleyans, and with which he had been familiar before leaving England. The work was congenial to him; and years afterward he often referred to his experience in the "Old City Station," especially its class-meetings, the preacher's quarterly visitation of the classes as led by the leaders, the pastoral visitation from house to house by the preachers in their respective districts in that station, and the systematic weekly collections from each member through the class-leaders. The next appointment to which he was assigned was West River. It was at this time (1839) he was transferred to the Texas Conference, where he aided heartily the noble men of that young Conference in planting Methodism in that vast and opening country. From Texas he was subsequently transferred to the Alabama Conference, in which his labors were freely given as pastor until called to occupy other positions, especially in relation to the literary department of the Church. He continued in the Alabama Conference, and from that body he was sent to every General Conference since the organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

At every session of this body, Dr. Summers has been elected Secretary, except the first, when he was Assistant. His services have been invaluable in this office, so important in its relation to the quadrennial Conference of the Church. Members of this and other sessions of the General Conference have borne witness to the fidelity and rare zeal he exhibited in the execution of this secretarial work.

The rigid attention he gave the duties of the office, his patient toil, his refusal at any time during Conference sessions to lighten his burden by needful recreation, his exactness in minuting the proceedings, his precision in the order of business, his fidelity in directing the records—all entitle him to be called "the faithful Secretary of the Church." In this respect the General Conference and the whole Church will ever acknowledge their indebtedness to Dr. Summers; and he, in characteristic tone of the true Methodist preacher of all work, prized the approval of his brethren as a far greater reward for the discharge of the duties of this office than any emolument which could have been awarded, as is sometimes done for those in similar relation to other

bodies. Thus worked, yet rejoiced in labor, our noble Secretary, till literally were fulfilled the favorite words he often sung:

O that without a lingering groan
I may the welcome word receive!
My body with my charge lay down,
And cease at once to work and live!

As Editor of Books—an office to which he had been assigned by the last General Conference—he still continued, until the close of his career, to display the same ripe scholarship, rich experience, and fidelity to all the duties required in the exposition of the great principles of Methodism, and in which he was jealous of the maintenance of the honor and polity of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

J. S. MARTIN,

O. R. BLUE,

Committee.

On motion, the foregoing Minute was ordered to be inserted in the Journal of the General Conference.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Episcopacy be, and they are hereby, earnestly requested, if practicable, to report by Thursday, the 11th instant, their recommendation in regard to the number of Bishops which this General Conference should elect.

JOHN E. EDWARDS,

P. A. PETERSON.

Samuel Rodgers was substituted for John S. Martin on the Committee on Itinerancy.

J. D. Shaw was substituted for Horace Bishop on the Committee on Missions.

Leave of absence was granted W. S. Jeter, of Little Rock Conference.

The Conference then adjourned, Bishop Paine pronouncing the benediction.

Tuesday Morning, May 9, 1882.

Conference met at 9 o'clock, Bishop Keener in the chair. Divine service conducted by S. Rodgers.

The Minutes of yesterday were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop Pierce took the chair, and called for reports from standing committees.

D. C. Kelley, Chairman, presented report No. 1 of the Committee on Missions, which was read, and laid on the table, under the rule.

W. W. Bennett, Chairman, presented report No. 1 of the Commit-

tee on Episcopacy, which was read, afterward amended, and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, REPORT NO. 1.

The Committee on Episcopacy, having considered that portion of the Address of the General Superintendents which refers to the great loss the Church has met in the death of two of their colleagues since the meeting of the last General Conference, beg leave to present the following, to be entered on the Journal, if the Conference shall see proper:

Bishop David Seth Doggett was born January 23, 1810, in Lancaster county, Virginia, of Methodist parents. His father was a local preacher whose house was the home, and often the preaching-place, of the fathers of the Church in Virginia. He was favored with valuable academic training in his youth, for awhile taught school, and after his entrance upon the ministry, while Chaplain at the University of Virginia, pursued his studies with ardor and success. He was converted in his seventeenth year, and soon after felt the divine call to the work of the Christian ministry.

At the Virginia Conference of 1829 he was received on trial, and sent as "helper" to the Roanoke Circuit, in North Carolina. The following year he was sent to the Mattamuskeet Circuit, in the extreme lowlands of the same State. Here he had great success in winning souls to Christ. His next appointment was to Petersburg, Va., and from this time his work was done in the most laborious and responsible fields. In all the larger cities of the Virginia Conference he worked with marked, and in some of them with wonderful, success. He was for four years Professor in Randolph-Macon College, and for eight years the Editor of the *Southern Methodist Quarterly Review*, and for nearly the whole of this latter period was the pastor of large churches. In 1866, at the General Conference at New Orleans, he was elected General Superintendent of the Church, and filled the office with great efficiency and success.

The character of Bishop Doggett, his devotion to the doctrines and usages of Methodism, and his preëminent ability as a preacher, are well known throughout the Church. The pulpit was his throne of power. Few men have reached a higher degree of perfection in effective and pure Christian preaching. He filled, with honor to himself and with blessing to the Church, every position in which he was placed, and, after long and severe suffering, ended his earthly life on the 27th of October, 1880, in peace, and entered into heavenly rest.

Bishop William May Wightman was born in Charleston, S. C., Jan-

uary 8, 1808, and died in the city of his birth, February 15, 1882. He was converted under a sermon preached by Rev. James O. Andrew (afterward Bishop), and made a public profession of Christ at the age of sixteen. He was graduated at the Charleston College in 1827, and in 1828 was received on trial into the South Carolina Conference, and immediately sprung into position and popularity. He labored successfully on the Pee Dee, Orangeburg, Sumter, and Abbeville Circuits, and in Charleston and Camden Stations, and Cokesbury District. In 1834 he was appointed Agent of Randolph-Macon College, and after three years' service in that capacity, was called to the Chair of English Literature, which he filled two years in that institution of learning. He was elected Editor of the *Southern Christian Advocate* in 1840, and continued until 1854, when he was chosen President of Wofford College. In 1859 he changed to the Chancellorship of the Southern University, and in 1866 was elected to the office of Bishop.

In all these relations he performed his duties faithfully and well. He wrote much, and with great facility. As an educator, he was painstaking and successful. As a preacher, he was in great requisition. The pulpit was his throne of thunders, especially at camp-meetings and on great occasions. Traditions of his power in the early days of his ministry still linger in South Carolina, and through his instrumentality many were brought into a saving contact with the truth. As a Bishop, he was loved and welcomed by the Conferences, and was abundant in labors—too much for his strength, which indeed was not small. He was capable of great service, and was a willing and cheerful worker. His witness is in heaven, and his record is on high.

Respectfully submitted.

W. W. BENNETT, Chairman.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Episcopacy was presented by the Chairman, W. W. Bennett, read, and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, REPORT NO. 2.

The Committee on Episcopacy, to whom was referred the communication of the senior Bishop, Robert Paine, D.D., asking to be permitted to retire from future active service, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to recommend that his request be granted. This necessary step, because of age and infirmity, is more painful to his brethren than it is to our reverend and beloved brother and father in the gospel himself. For him the whole Church cherishes the most profound respect and unabated Christian affection. For nearly sixty-five years he has been actively engaged in the work of the ministry. Whether on the circuit, on frontier missionary fields, in the city, on

the Presiding Elder's District, at the head of an important literary institution, or in the delicate and responsible position of Bishop, he has ever maintained purity of character and a spotless reputation, and has always displayed apostolic zeal in the cause of the Master. His duties have been performed with fidelity and marked ability. Brought up in the times of McKendree, Roberts, and Soule, he received the impress of those distinguished fathers, and has maintained without variation the doctrines and polity of the Church of his early choice.

In retiring from the active duties of his office, as one of our General Superintendents, he carries with him the love and high Christian regards of the whole Church, ministers and laymen. He has cause to rejoice that, by grace, he has the consolation of knowing that his life and labors have been blessed in building up the cause of Christ, and in enlarging the borders of his beloved Methodism, and that he is going down to his grave with the esteem and confidence of his colleagues and his brethren everywhere. He was one of the first two Bishops elected by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and has borne our flag for thirty-six years, and has never faltered in any conflict. And now that he retires from the front of the battle, it is the prayer of the whole Church that he may have peace and joy in the Holy Ghost, and that his sun may finally go down in a cloudless sky.

The committee recommend for adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the request of Bishop Paine, to retire from the active service of the Church, be granted, and that his wishes be heartily approved, and that in future he be released from all official duty except such as it may suit his convenience to perform.

2. That the Church, of which he has been so long one of the chief and honored ministers, highly appreciates his valuable services, and gives thanks to God for the grace vouchsafed to him in his long and useful life.

3. That we will earnestly pray that our beloved Bishop may be sustained in all afflictions and bodily infirmities, and that his last days may be full of comfort in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Respectfully submitted.

W. W. BENNETT, Chairman.

P. A. Peterson, Chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table, under the rule.

G. R. Browder, Chairman of the Committee on Boundaries, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table, under the rule.

W. P. Harrison, Chairman of the Committee on Education, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was laid on the table, on motion of W. W. Bennett, in order to present, in connection with the report, a plan for the organization of a General Conference Board of Education.

Samuel Rodgers—elected Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, in place of J. S. Martin, elected Secretary of the Conference—presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, REPORT NO. 1.

The Committee on Itinerancy beg leave to report that they have carefully considered the several Journals herein named, with the following results, viz.:

Virginia Conference Journal.—On page 408 questions 4, 5, 8, are united—Who are admitted into full connection? and What traveling preachers are elected deacons? On page 412, vote in relation to change in Discipline, the number voting is left blank. On page 481 questions 20 and 18 are said to be taken up together, and question 18 alone is stated at the end of the answer, to wit, Who are superannuated? Under question 1, Who are admitted on trial? there is no mention that the persons admitted had passed an approved examination on the Course of Study. (See page 405.) Under question 4, Who are admitted into full connection? there is no mention that the persons admitted had passed an approved examination on the Course of Study. (See page 408.) Under question 12, What traveling preachers are elected elders? the statement that the persons had passed an approved examination is omitted. (See page 488.) Under question 14, What local preachers are elected elders? there is no mention that the persons elected presented notes certifying their belief in the doctrines and discipline of our Church. With the above exceptions, which are found in the minutes of 1878, 1879, and 1880, the Journal is a model of neatness and accuracy. The minutes of the session of 1881 are free from the faults mentioned, and are complete, and to be commended without reserve other than this, that the marginal index is not complete.

Indian Mission Conference Journal.—In this Journal the date at the top of the page and the marginal notes are generally omitted. Penmanship and grammar faulty; otherwise the Journal is well kept.

Holston Conference Journal.—For 1878 and 1879 the marginal notes are generally omitted. The questions are not always written out, as on page 580, where only the number 17 is given. On page 585 the appointments are given without mention of the question under which they

come. In some instances under-graduates are passed with no reference to approved examination by committees. There are some interlineations, words omitted, and blots. The penmanship is generally plain and neat, and on the whole the Journal is faithfully kept.

Little Rock Conference Journal.—The pages of this Journal show some interlineations and erasures. The penmanship is sometimes bad. The Journal is complete in form and generally well kept. The marginal index is unusually full and accurate.

Alabama Conference Journal.—In several instances the number of question is given as resumed but not written out in full. The minutes of the forty-eighth session are not signed by the presiding Bishop nor by the Secretary. (See page 155.) Minutes of forty-ninth session are not signed by the Bishop. (See page 202.) With these exceptions, this Journal is nearly faultless—a model of accuracy, neatness, and excellence generally.

Denver Conference Journal.—The session of 1878 presents the following noticeable errors:

An absence of all running-heads on pages 148, 149, and 150. All the questions are written in consecutive order without any reference to the business transacted.

On page 150 question 31 is answered thus: "See conclusion of these minutes." The Secretary says on page 150, "Most of the strictly minute business of this session appears under questions regularly recorded under first day's proceedings," whereas the General Conference requires that the business shall be recorded in the order in which it is transacted.

1879. The same omission of all running heads occurs in this session as the one before it. Frequent report of speeches of visitors. (See page 166.)

In answer to question 20, it is written, "They were all examined one by one." No names are recorded, and no statement that their characters passed.

1880. No running heads of this session.

The same class of errors appears in the Journal of 1881. In all respects this Journal is very defective. The clerical execution is very inferior.

Holston Conference Journal.—1880-81. Under question 4, Who are received into full connection? it is not stated that the persons received passed an approved examination on the Course of Study. (See pages 11 and 12 of Journal.)

The Journal of these two sessions is well kept and every way to be

commended, with the above exceptions, and that the minutes of 1880 and 1881 are not signed by the presiding Bishop.

S. RODGERS, Chairman.

JOHN A. THOMPSON, Secretary.

J. H. Carlisle, Chairman of the Committee on Sunday-schools, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, REPORT NO. 1.

In accordance with the suggestion in the Bishops' Quadrennial Address, "That the General Conference would do a timely service for catechetical instruction in the family, the Sunday-school, and the Church at large, by creating a commission to revise the catechisms in use among us, and to prepare a graded system, suited to all, from the infant to the Bible class, to be published under suitable regulations:"

Resolved, That the College of Bishops appoint a commission of such members as they see proper to prepare a graded system of standard catechisms, suited to all, from the infant class to the Bible class, to be published under the supervision of the Sunday-school Editor.

Respectfully submitted.

JAS. H. CARLISLE, Chairman.

R. W. JONES, Secretary.

W. W. Walker, Chairman of the Committee on Publishing Interests, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS, REPORT NO. 1.

Your committee to whom was referred the memorial of the German Mission Conference of Texas and Louisiana, M. E. Church, South, "asking that J. B. A. Ahrens, D.D., be reelected editor, and Rev. J. A. G. Rabe assistant editor, of the *Familienfreund* and the *Kindervfreund*; also, to elect a Publishing Committee to superintend our German publications, to be composed of the following persons, to wit, J. B. A. Ahrens, D.D., F. Vordenbaumen, J. A. Schaper, Jacob Bader, J. A. G. Rabe," do recommend that the prayer of said memorial be granted.

Respectfully submitted.

W. W. WALKER, Chairman.

S. H. DENT, Secretary.

B. Craven, Secretary of the Committee on Appeals, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON APPEALS, REPORT NO. 1.

G. W. Whitman, elder of the South Carolina Conference, deposed from the ministry on the charge of immorality. The case is remanded

to the South Carolina Conference for a new trial, on the ground of inconsistency in the decision, in that it deposed him from the ministry on the charge of immorality, and retained him in the Church.

J. C. KEENER, President.

B. CRAVEN, Secretary.

The following delegates were announced as present, and took their seats in the Conference:

J. W. Proctor, lay delegate from the Kentucky Conference.

M. S. Andrews, alternate, in place of T. O. Summers, deceased, Alabama Conference.

P. G. Wood, lay delegate from the Alabama Conference.

The Chair called for reports from special committees.

E. E. Wiley, Chairman of the Committee on Introductions, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON INTRODUCTIONS, REPORT NO. 1.

In accordance with the action of the General Conference at Atlanta, in May, 1878, "That the second Wednesday of the session of the General Conference to be held in May, 1882, is suggested as the day for the reception of fraternal delegations, and that the evening of that day, and such other evenings as the Conference may order, shall be set apart for listening to addresses from delegations," your committee beg leave to report for adoption the following:

That Wednesday next, May 10, 8 o'clock P.M., be the time, and the audience-room of McKendree Church (the Committee on Public Worship concurring), be the place, for the reception and hearing of our brethren beloved, bringing to us fraternal messages.

E. E. WILEY, Chairman.

Bishop Pierce presented a communication from a number of persons belonging to the Methodist Episcopal Church, on the subject of the Centenary of Methodism, which was read, and, on motion of J. E. Edwards, referred to the Committee on the Centenary of Methodism.

Samuel Rodgers, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, returned certain papers, and asked that they be referred to the Committee on Revisal, which was so ordered by the Conference.

The Chair called for memorials, petitions, and appeals, and the Conferences, being called in alphabetical order, responded as follows:

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—A petition from Frank Parke, asking that no person under thirty years of age be received into the traveling connection who habitually uses tobacco, referred to the Committee on Temperance.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—A petition from the Quarterly Conference of Bartholomew Circuit, asking certain changes in the Discipline, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—A memorial from the Curators of McTyeire Institute, McKenzie, Tenn., was referred to the Committee on Education.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—A memorial in relation to the boundary of the Conference: referred to the Committee on Boundaries. Also, a memorial relating to the boundary of the North Alabama and Alabama Conferences: referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—A petition from the Quarterly Conference of Washington Station, in relation to the support of the ministry, referred to the Committee on Finance.

PACIFIC CONFERENCE.—A memorial from the Pacific Conference, in relation to an Episcopal residence on the Pacific Coast, referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

SOUTH-WEST MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—A petition from nine Quarterly Conferences in the Springfield District in regard to changing the name of the Church, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

A. W. Wilson, Missionary Secretary, presented papers relating to changes in the Constitution of the Woman's Missionary Society, referred to the Committee on Missions.

The call was then made for resolutions and papers to be referred to standing committees, which resulted as follows:

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—A. W. Wilson, Samuel Rodgers, and R. Smithson presented a resolution in relation to the graduation of the claims of superannuated preachers: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy. Also, J. S. Gardner and E. B. Prettyman presented a resolution asking a change in question 15 of the Quarterly Conference business: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution signed by J. S. Gardner, J. H. H. Figgatt, and R. Smithson, on the propriety of uniformity in the baptismal service: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

COLUMBIA CONFERENCE.—J. R. N. Bell and T. H. B. Anderson presented a resolution in relation to the boundaries of Columbia, Pacific, and Montana Conferences: referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE.—C. E. Dowman and F. Pasco presented a resolution to inquire into the expediency of amending the third restrictive rule by providing for the assignment of Bishops to mission-

ary districts, and limiting their episcopal jurisdiction to the same: referred to the Committee on Missions.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—A resolution presented by J. S. Kennedy and J. S. Gardner relating to the trial of appeals of traveling preachers, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.—A resolution signed by C. C. Mayhew and S. Carpenter relating to missionary aid for Illinois Conference, referred to the Committee on Missions.

INDIANA CONFERENCE.—J. Ditzler and C. C. Mayhew offered a resolution in regard to the change of the name of the Church: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—A resolution from H. C. Settle and G. H. Hayes in regard to the trial of preachers, referred to the Committee on Revisal.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—W. L. C. Hunnicutt, C. B. Galloway, and C. S. Stewart offered a resolution respecting a change of the law relating to appeals: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution signed by C. B. Galloway and I. Miller proposing the election of two editors of Sunday-school publications: referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—W. C. Doub and T. Turnbull presented a paper relating to the subject of education: referred to the Committee on Education.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—H. H. Parks, P. Gallagher, H. J. Adams, and B. M. Messick, offered a resolution asking the restoration of certain paragraphs in the Bishops' Address, eliminated in 1866: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution signed by W. F. Cook, W. H. Potter, and A. G. Haygood, relating to the collection of educational statistics: referred to the Committee on Education.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—T. C. Wier and others presented a resolution proposing to change the Discipline in relation to the functions of a president-elect of an Annual Conference: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution from R. W. Jones and T. J. Magruder in relation to Sunday-school curriculum: referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—W. Allen and Young Burgher offered a resolution in relation to the election of lay delegates to the Annual and General Conferences: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, C. E. Brown, H. Bishop, A. Davis, and W. Price offered a resolution for the election of a board or commission to be called the Board of Assessments: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also,

J. D. Shaw, W. Price, and H. Bishop offered a resolution asking for changes in the Discipline, in Chapter XIII., Sections II. and III.: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—W. W. Duncan, S. B. Jones, and O. A. Darby offered a resolution proposing that applicants for license to preach and exhort shall be recommended by District Conferences: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

SOUTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—T. T. Christian and W. F. Cook offered a resolution relating to changes in the Presiding Eldership: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution from J. B. McGehee and W. I. Green relating to the election of delegates to the District and Annual Conferences: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—J. B. McFerrin offered a resolution asking that the Bishops be relieved from presiding in the District Conferences: referred to the Committee on Episcopacy. Also, a resolution from D. C. Kelley, T. B. Holt, G. G. Dibrell, and R. H. Pickering, relating to the Joint Board of Finance: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution signed by J. D. Barbee, asking that the Presiding Elder shall be authorized to nominate the District Steward: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution from J. W. Manier, Treasurer, and D. C. Kelley, Assistant Treasurer, of the Board of Missions, asking that some plan be devised to prevent missionary drafts from being hawked about in the market: referred to the Committee on Missions.

TEXAS CONFERENCE.—E. S. Smith, B. D. Orgain, J. T. Swearingen, and H. V. Philpott offered a resolution asking a change in the law relating to deacons and elders ceasing to travel: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—J. E. Edwards and W. W. Walker offered a resolution relating to the work of the Bishops in the interval of the Annual Conferences: referred to the Committee on Episcopacy. Also, a resolution from P. A. Peterson and R. Irby relating to annual sermons on the subject of Missions: referred to the Committee on Missions. Also, a resolution signed by P. A. Peterson and R. Irby relating to colportage: referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—T. S. Wade, J. W. Fitch, and W. C. Ireland offered a resolution proposing a change in the law relating to the support of the ministry: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

WHITE RIVER CONFERENCE.—J. H. Dye and P. A. Peterson offered a resolution that after Thursday, May 11, the call of Conferences for petitions, memorials, appeals, and resolutions shall be discon-

tinued; and after Monday, May 15, no memorial, petition, or resolution proposing a change of the Discipline shall be entertained, except by a two-thirds vote of the Conference. This resolution was adopted.

D. R. McAnally announced the arrival of Samuel Cupples, a lay delegate from the St. Louis Conference.

Whereupon O. R. Blue read the following paper:

General Conference Room, Nashville, May 9, 1882.

The undersigned beg leave at this time to present to the General Conference the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas the rumor has reached us, in our places as delegates to this General Conference, that Samuel Cupples, lay delegate to this General Conference from the St. Louis Annual Conference, since his election to this General Conference, has openly and before the world violated the spirit of the General Rules of the Church, by permitting dancing in his house; and whereas such violation of the law of the Church, by one occupying the honored and trusted position of a legislator in the Church of God, is scandalous, and fraught with immense mischief to the good order and discipline of the same: therefore, be it

Resolved, by this General Conference, That a committee, consisting of one from each Annual Conference, be appointed by this General Conference, whose duty it shall be to examine into the truthfulness of said rumor, and report such resolutions in reference to the seating of the said Samuel Cupples as they may deem necessary.

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| O. R. BLUE, | W. A. McCARTY, |
| ANSON WEST, | JOHN A. THOMPSON, |
| JOHN T. HARRIS, | B. CRAVEN, |
| F. LAW, | L. M. WILSON, |
| T. C. WIER. | |

The resolution was adopted, and, upon call of the Conferences, the committee was named by the chairmen of the various delegations, as follows:

Alabama, W. A. McCarty; Arkansas, B. H. Greathouse; Baltimore, W. P. Harrison; Columbia, J. R. N. Bell; Denver, Isaac Brinker; East Texas, Huston Twomey; Florida, F. Pasco; German Mission, J. B. A. Ahrens; Holston, W. W. Stringfield; Illinois, C. C. Mayhew; Indiana, Jacob Ditzler; Indian Mission, G. B. Hester; Kentucky, J. W. Fitch; Little Rock, Horace Jewell; Los Angeles, T. R. Curtis; Louisiana, L. Parker; Louisville, John A. Carter; Memphis, W. T. Harris; Mississippi, C. B. Galloway; Missouri, C. I. Vandeventer; Montana, L. B. Stateler; North Alabama, Anson West; North Carolina, N. W. Lawrence; North Georgia, C. P. Crawford; North Mississippi,

J. M. Wells; North Texas, J. H. McLean; North-west Texas, D. H. Snyder; Pacific, W. B. Brown; South Carolina, S. B. Jones; South Georgia, J. B. McGehee; South-west Missouri, W. C. Godbey; St. Louis, J. C. Moore; Tennessee, R. H. Pickering; Texas, E. S. Smith; Virginia, J. D. Blackwell; Western, W. H. H. Adams; Western Virginia, W. C. Ireland; West Texas, M. N. Shive; White River, Josephus Anderson.

A. H. Redford appeared before the Conference, and began his reply to the Reports of the Book Agent and the Book Committee.

On motion of A. B. Stark, the Conference resolved to meet at 8 o'clock P.M.

C. S. Stewart, of the Mississippi Conference, was substituted on the Committee on Finance for I. Miller.

The Conference then adjourned.

Tuesday Evening, May 9, 1882.

The Conference met at 8 o'clock P.M., Bishop Pierce in the chair.

Divine service conducted by J. H. McLean.

The reading of the Minutes of the morning session was postponed until to-morrow.

A. H. Redford continued his reply to the Book Agent and Book Committee, at the conclusion of which, at 10 o'clock P.M., the Conference adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Kavanaugh.

Wednesday Morning, May 10, 1882.

The Conference met at 9 o'clock A.M., Bishop Pierce in the chair.

Divine service conducted by D. R. McAnally.

The Minutes of yesterday morning and last night were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop Kavanaugh took the chair.

Richard Pollard, lay delegate from the Virginia Conference, and E. M. Newman, alternate in the place of T. L. Given, from the Kentucky Conference, took their seats.

R. Pollard was placed on the Committee on Boundaries, instead of J. D. Blackwell.

P. G. Wood was placed on the Committee on Boundaries, instead of R. H. Powell.

W. F. Cook and H. J. Adams presented the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That in the call for the reports of the standing committees, they shall be called in the order in which the committees appear in the Journal.

2. That when the previous question is called, on the adoption of a report from a standing committee, and the call is sustained, the chairman of the committee, or some member whom he may designate, shall be allowed ten minutes in which to advocate the report.

The first resolution was adopted.

J. H. H. Figgatt moved to amend the last resolution by allowing the opposition ten minutes.

E. A. Yates moved to lay the amendment and the resolution on the table, which motion prevailed—ayes, 99; noes, 85.

N. T. Lupton, from the Committee on Sunday-schools, appointed at the last General Conference, presented a report, which was read and referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

S. Rodgers, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, REPORT NO. 2.

Your Committee on Itinerancy have carefully examined the following Journals, and submit their Report No. 2:

Kentucky Conference Journal.—The minutes of the four annual sessions are remarkably accurate, precise, and, in fact, almost faultless.

Bishop's signature duly attached, marginal index large and complete, the running-head, from page to page, giving date and place of meeting regularly.

Where a disciplinary question is asked the second time, the question is not written, but with the word "resumed."

South Carolina Conference Journal.—The Journal is a model of accuracy and neatness.

It is a singular fact in these minutes that upon roll-call at the opening of the Conference sessions, the names of members present are in no instance given. The paragraph bearing on this point invariably reads, "The Secretary of the last Conference called the roll and ——— clerical and ——— lay members answered to their names." It is impossible by these minutes to find out who was present and who not present; in fact, impossible to find out who is, and who is not, a member, unless by referring to list of appointments.

Arkansas Conference Journal.—The Journal of the Arkansas Conference has been neatly and tastefully kept, and the minutes are full and accurate.

On page 539 a preacher was received into full connection under the call of question 2, Who remain on trial?

Pages 543, 563, 589, 610, 612, preachers were placed on the super-

numenary and superannuated lists, and located, under the call of question 20, Are all the preachers blameless in their life and official administration?

Page 563, a preacher was elected deacon under the call of question 2, Who remain on trial?

Page 565, a preacher was received, and another continued on trial, without the call of any question.

Page 589, the name of David C. Summers was called, and pending the consideration Conference adjourned, and the case was not again taken up during the session.

Page 611, a preacher was elected deacon, and another continued on trial, under the call of question 4, Who are admitted into full connection?

During the forty-second session, the questions laid down in the Discipline are not all called. Evidently the Secretary is not responsible for any of these errors or omissions, but the presiding Bishop.

Louisiana Conference Journal.—The Journal of this Conference has been for the most part well kept, and is a faithful record of the work of the Conference. We note, however, the following errors and omissions:

The names of the members attending the thirty-third session are not recorded.

There are no marginal notes in the minutes of the thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth sessions.

On page 95, the minutes say a committee was appointed on the case of W. J. Picot, but do not say on what account; and on page 100 a similar record is made in the case of R. M. Crowsin.

In most cases the minutes do not show who presided after the first day of the session.

On pages 7, 10, 11, 98, 99, and 101, preachers were placed on the list of superannuates and supernumeraries, continued on trial, discontinued, admitted into full connection, and elected to deacon's and elder's orders, under the call of question 20, Are all the preachers blameless in their life and official administration?

Page 96, a preacher was elected to elder's orders under the call of question 7, Who are the deacons of one year?

For some of these errors the Secretary is responsible, and for others the presiding Bishop.

Texas Conference Journal.—Local preachers are elected to elder's orders with no statement that they presented note certifying their belief in our doctrines and Discipline. (See page 148.)

On page 157, it is said that question 31 was called, but the question is not stated.

With the above exceptions, the Journal is satisfactorily kept, and deserves high commendation. SAMUEL RODGERS, Chairman.

JOHN A. THOMPSON, Secretary.

S. Rodgers, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 3 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, REPORT NO. 3.

Your Committee on Itinerancy have considered a resolution signed by P. A. Peterson, W. S. Black, and A. M. Shipp, asking that the second restrictive rule of the Discipline, referring to representation in the General Conference, be changed. We respectfully recommend non-concurrence.

Also, a memorial signed by the following members of the Kentucky Conference, viz.: B. F. Bristoe, W. B. Godby, C. J. Nugent, John Jay Dickey, Geo. F. Gould, J. C. C. Newton, D. B. Cooper, Alex. Redd, B. F. Sedwick, and G. C. Kelly, asking the appointment of evangelists. We recommend non-concurrence.

SAMUEL RODGERS, Chairman.

JOHN A. THOMPSON, Secretary.

P. A. Peterson, Chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read and laid on the table, under the rule.

D. C. Kelley, Chairman of the Committee on Missions, presented Report No. 2 of that committee.

This report having recommended non-concurrence in the proposition to enlarge the Board of Missions so that it would be comprised of one member from each Annual Conference, J. E. Evans moved to amend the report by striking out "non," so as to make it read "concur." This motion brought the report under the rule, and it was laid on the table.

P. P. Ellis, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, which was read and adopted, viz.:

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, REPORT NO. 1.

Your committee to whom was referred the paper from Dr. J. B. McFerrin, Book Agent, asking disposition of the \$266.17 now in his hands, paid him by the Methodist Episcopal Church from the suspended assets in the division of Church-property in 1844, would respectfully offer the following resolution for your adoption, viz.:

Resolved, That the \$266.17 arising from the suspended assets in the division of Church-property in 1844, and now in the hands of Dr. J. B. McFerrin, Book Agent, be paid over to the Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to become a part of the capital in the business of said institution. P. P. ELLIS, Chairman.

J. W. FULTON, Secretary.

The Chair called for reports from special committees.

A. M. Shipp, Chairman of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, presented Report No. 1 of that committee, embracing a letter to the Rev. James Stacy, Chairman of the Sabbath Committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

On motion of J. W. Tucker, the report was laid on the table for further consideration.

W. W. Duncan presented a paper from the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, which was read and referred to the Committee on Temperance.

J. B. McFerrin and James Whitworth were permitted to make statements in reply to Dr. A. H. Redford, and the time of the session was extended to enable the Chairman of the Book Committee to finish his statement.

The Conference resolved to meet at 8 o'clock P.M., to receive the Fraternal Delegates, and adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Keener.

Wednesday Evening, May 10, 1882.

The Conference assembled at 8 o'clock P.M., in the auditorium of McKendree Church, Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

Religious exercises were conducted by James S. Gardner.

At the request of the Secretary, the reading of the Minutes of the morning session was postponed until to-morrow.

Bishop McTyeire announced the purpose of the evening session to be the formal reception of fraternal delegates from other branches of the Methodist Church—those holding like faith with ourselves—and to hear words of greeting from them.

The Rev. Howard Sprague, A.M., of the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, and the Rev. Henry Bascom Ridgaway, D.D., of the Methodist Episcopal Church, were then presented by Bishop McTyeire to the General Conference.

The credentials were read as follows:

To the Bishops and other Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South:

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—This letter will be presented to

you by the Rev. Howard Sprague, Master of Arts, who was duly appointed at the last session of the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, held at Montreal, to convey to you their fraternal greetings, and to give expression to their warm Christian love and admiration of your earnest and successful labors for the common Master.

He is a brother held in high esteem among us, and is cordially commended to your confidence and sympathy. He will be able to give you some account of our work and prospects, and we trust that his communications will tend to strengthen the bond of Christian affection already happily existing between us and you.

By order and on behalf of the General Conference.

A. SUTHERLAND, Secretary.

Dated at Toronto, this 27th day of March, 1882.

To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South:

DEAR BRETHREN:—The Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, acting under authority given them by the last General Conference, have appointed the Rev. Henry Bascom Ridgaway, D.D., a fraternal delegate to your body.

He is one of the foremost ministers of our denomination, and he bears to you the most sincere and cordial Christian salutations of the Church he represents.

By order and on behalf of the Board of Bishops.

WILLIAM L. HARRIS, Secretary.

New York, November 8, 1881.

Mr. Sprague first addressed the body in an able and instructive manner, and was briefly replied to by Bishop McTyeire.

One of the Wesleyan hymns, "O for a thousand tongues to sing," was announced, and sung with much spirit.

The Rev. Dr. Ridgaway then delivered an eloquent address, to which a proper response was made by the presiding Bishop.

The "Old Ship of Zion" was sung, followed by the doxology.

Bishop Kavanaugh pronounced the benediction, and the Conference adjourned.

Thursday Morning, May 11, 1882.

The Conference met at the appointed hour, Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

Religious service was conducted by the Rev. A. R. Winfield, of the Arkansas Conference.

The Minutes of yesterday morning and last night were read and approved.

The following lay delegates arrived, and took their seats:

J. W. Jones, from the Arkansas Conference, assigned to the Committee on Revisal in place of B. H. Greathouse.

J. W. Proctor, from the Kentucky Conference, assigned to the Committee on Publishing Interests in place of J. C. Woodward.

C. J. Moody, from the Tennessee Conference.

J. B. McGehee, chairman of the committee appointed in the case of Samuel Cupples, lay delegate from the St. Louis Conference, presented a report, which was read and adopted, as follows:

The committee to whom was referred a paper signed by O. R. Blue and others, relative to a rumor that Samuel Cupples, a lay delegate from the St. Louis Conference, since his election to the General Conference, had openly and before the world violated the General Rules of the Church by permitting dancing in his house, have duly considered the matter, and submit the following report:

After a free, fair, and full investigation of all the facts, we are of the opinion that the law of the Church against dancing has been fully vindicated by his pastor and Church, and that no further action is necessary.

Respectfully submitted.

J. B. McGEHEE, Chairman.

C. P. CRAWFORD, Secretary.

Reports of standing committees being called for, W. W. Bennett, Chairman of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented Report No. 3 of that committee, in which the election of six Bishops was recommended.

It was moved that the report be adopted, and O. R. Blue moved to amend the report by striking out "six" and inserting "three."

After some discussion, it was ordered that consideration of the report be postponed until 11:15 o'clock this day.

S. Rodgers, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 4 of that committee, which was read and adopted, viz.:

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, REPORT NO. 4.

Your committee, in pursuance of their duties, have examined the following Journals, and report:

Mississippi Conference Journal.—The Journal of this Conference, so far as the mechanical work is concerned, will compare favorably. The headings and marginal notes are in harmony with existing requirements. The Minutes for 1878 are above criticism. In the Journal for 1879, pages 260 and 283, candidates for advancement were passed and advanced without having completed the full Course of Study.

The entry says that "the candidate be required to be examined on this book next year." This is not the fault of the Secretary, but of the President of the Conference. In 1880, pages 325 and 327, the same occurs with reference to other parties, and several books were mentioned. One brother was required to bring up his studies at the next session on Discipline and Ralston's Elements. On page 328, session 1880, question 1, Who are admitted on trial? is answered simply by giving the names of the parties admitted; no recommendations from the Quarterly Conference are mentioned, and no report of a committee of examination is furnished. On page 330, a preacher was elected to deacon's orders without any recommendation from a Quarterly Conference so far as the Journal shows. It is due the regular Secretary of this Conference, Dr. C. G. Andrews, to state that he was not in charge of the office during the session of 1880, having been elected to preside over the Conference in the absence of the Bishop. Journal of 1881, being under the supervision of the old Secretary, Dr. C. G. Andrews, shows an exemption from errors and inaccuracies to be commended. A. J. Peeble, page 377, was passed to a higher grade, but required to bring up some unfinished studies at the next session. This overlooking the rules is an official act of the presiding Bishop.

The questions in the Journal are all properly numbered and written in full. The number appearing in the margin is thus easily seen.

Western Conference Journal.—This Journal is not perfect by any means, yet there are extenuating circumstances to be offered, as this is a young and constantly changing Conference. With these changes there is an irregularity almost unavoidable in the work necessary to be done. This is seen in the fact that during the recent *quadrennium* there were three Secretaries. The first defect in the above-named Journal is that it is *not paged*. Hence the difficulty in locating the errors and inaccuracies. The headings and marginal notes throughout the four years are fair. The mechanical execution is fair. The Journal of each session was signed by the presiding Bishop, and the general make-up of the Minutes is creditable. There is observable a gratifying improvement each year. The most glaring error, and which occurred frequently in 1878, was the transaction of nearly all the Minute business without calling the questions, or numbering them.

Parties were elected to deacon's and elder's orders, admitted into full connection, ordained, located, Secretary of the next session chosen, preachers appointed, with no questions asked. These omissions recur in 1879-80. Transfers were announced under no particular head; and no question as to members in Society, baptisms, Sunday-schools,

missionary money, or any head furnishing statistical *data*. Question 20 was called, but no statement made as to what the question was. Some of these defects are found in 1881, but the diminution is encouraging, as the last Secretary shows a good order of talent for a new beginner.

South Georgia Conference.—The Minutes are remarkably well kept, and are almost faultless as to matter strictly clerical. We note, however, the following irregularities:

On page 369, the Minutes say, under question 20, “the Bishop called question 18;” and, in fact, the business properly belonging under question 18 was then transacted.

There is no business recorded anywhere in the Minutes under questions 20 to 30, and no note referring to the Appendix where these questions are answered.

At the opening of the Conference of 1879, the Rev. J. W. Hinton is set down to have received a majority of the votes cast for Chairman, in the absence of a Bishop, but was not declared elected.

Page 484, again under question 20, it is stated that question 18 was taken up, and the record shows that the business belonging under question 18 was transacted.

On page 492, Conference was opened and business transacted without the usual religious services.

In the year 1879, the Appointments were read without asking question 31.

Page 532, question 20 is margined, but not asked in the Minutes, though the examination of the character of the preachers took place, as the record shows.

Page 533. There is no mention of the numbers of the members in Conference and of the number of delegates the Conference was entitled to under the ratio of representation. The Secretary announced that they were entitled to but four clerical and four lay delegates, and the ballot proceeded; no mention of tellers, and no mention of the whole vote cast, and none of the number received by any member voted for, but that on the first ballot A and others were elected.

The Minutes of 1881 lacked the signature of the presiding Bishop.

North Alabama Conference Journal we find to have been kept with great care and neatness. On page 177, only four of the lay delegates are mentioned, and no mention is made of the district from which they came.

Page 180. Several members are said to be present who had not appeared before, but their names not given.

Page 225. The Minutes show that the credentials of a local preacher were presented and filed with the Conference, but do not state his order in the ministry, or whether he had been expelled or simply withdrawn.

Page 262. A preamble and resolution were offered and laid on the table, but the resolution itself is not given, nor any remark by which the character of it can be determined. But for these slight errors, this Journal would need no correction.

The Journal of the North Georgia Conference has been admirably kept. It is a complete record of Conference proceedings. It records the Appointments of three sessions successively without question 31. In a number of instances the question is resumed under its numerical title without being written out.

Pacific Conference Journal has no marginal notes or headings. In other regards it is very well kept through all the sessions. Motions pertaining to resolutions, and legitimate work under other questions, were entertained and acted upon under question 20, and the Appointments of the twenty-eighth, thirtieth, and thirty-first sessions are recorded without any questions. SAMUEL RODGERS, Chairman.

S. Rodgers, Chairman of the Committee on Itinerancy, presented Report No. 5 of that committee, which was read, and followed by a minority report from the same committee, presented by J. E. Edwards. The minority report, if adopted, changes the Discipline in regard to the term of office of Presiding Elders, and therefore both reports lie over, under the rule.

W. W. Walker, Chairman of the Committee on Publishing Interests, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS, REPORT NO. 2.

Your committee having duly considered the report of the Committee on the *Quarterly Review*, are of the opinion that the *Review* has been well and ably conducted; that it supplies an important need in our Church literature, and furnishes a channel through which those minds interested in great questions, concerning the relations of scriptural truth to other truth, can be most easily and effectively reached.

The business management of the *Review* appears to have been skillfully and successfully conducted, and the result thus far justifies the hope that the enterprise will in the future continue to be prosperous.

The following resolutions are proposed for adoption:

Resolved, 1. That the *Quarterly Review* is recommended to the ministers and members of the M. E. Church, South, as worthy of their confidence and patronage.

2. That the *Review* ought to be continued on the same basis, and under the same management, as at present, and that E. R. Hendricks, J. W. Hinton, N. T. Lupton, C. W. Miller, F. A. Wood, A. B. Stark, A. W. Wilson, C. G. Andrews, R. A. Young, and B. Craven be appointed to have control and direction of all matters pertaining to the *Review*.
W. W. WALKER, Chairman.

Report No. 3 from the same committee, relating to the publication of an abridged hymn-book, was read and laid on the table for future consideration.

W. W. Walker, Chairman of the Committee on Publishing Interests, presented Report No. 4 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS, REPORT NO. 4.

The Committee on Publishing Interests beg leave to report that the committee have had under consideration a resolution signed by William Allen and William H. Hughes, in reference to printing a Discipline with paper back for those who are unable or unwilling to buy the present costly one, and recommend non-concurrence.

Respectfully submitted. W. W. WALKER, Chairman.

E. M. BUTT, Assistant Secretary.

G. R. Browder, Chairman of the Committee on Boundaries, presented Report No. 2 of that committee.

A minority report from the same committee was presented by H. W. Foote, and both reports lie on the table, under the rule.

D. C. Kelley, Chairman of the Committee on Missions, presented Report No. 3 of that committee, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

P. A. Peterson, Chairman of the Committee on Revisal, presented Report No. 3 of that committee, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

P. P. Ellis, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, presented Report No. 2 of that committee, which was read.

A minority report from the same committee was presented by B. H. Greathouse. Both reports were laid on the table.

P. P. Ellis, Chairman, presented Report No. 3 of the Committee on Finance, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, REPORT NO. 3.

Your committee, to whom was referred the paper signed by Thomas Shackelford and T. D. Woodson, of the Missouri Conference, suggesting, and advising the several Annual Conferences to create and have duly incorporated, "Boards of Trust," for the special purpose of receiving and safely investing donations and bequests, the proceeds of which shall be for the benefit of the superannuated preachers, and the widows and orphans of such preachers as have died in the regular work, would report that this valued paper has had due consideration, and we respectfully offer the following resolution for your adoption, viz.:

Resolved, That the suggestions and advice to Annual Conferences, contained in the paper of Thomas Shackelford and T. D. Woodson, of the Missouri Conference, be approved, and that the paper and this report be published in the Journal of the General Conference.

P. P. ELLIS, Chairman.

The paper alluded to in the above report will be found in the Appendix, page 186.

A. M. Shipp, Chairman, presented Report No. 2 of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, which was read, and adopted unanimously, to wit:

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE, REPORT NO. 2.

The Committee present the following resolution for adoption by the Conference:

Resolved, That this General Conference has heard with great satisfaction the Christian salutation of the Methodist Church of Canada through their fraternal messenger, the Rev. Howard Sprague, A.M., and of the Methodist Episcopal Church through the Rev. Henry Bascom Ridgaway, D.D., and heartily reciprocate their expression of Christian love to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, praying that the Divine Spirit may render effective their joint labors with ours in spreading scriptural holiness through the earth.

Respectfully submitted.

A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

The following letter, addressed to the Conference by the Rev. James Stacy, Chairman of the Sabbath Committee of the Southern Presbyterian Church, having been received, and referred to the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, A. M. Shipp, chairman of that committee, presented Report No. 1, which was adopted as amended by the chairman.

The letter to the Conference is as follows:

To the Bishops and Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at Nashville, Tenn.:

DEAR BRETHREN:—I address you as Chairman of the Sabbath Committee of the Southern Presbyterian Church. At the last meeting of our General Assembly, our committee was instructed to correspond with the Evangelical Churches, with a view of securing their coöperation in the matter of petitioning the civil authorities. The following is the action to which reference is had:

Resolved, That the committee be instructed to institute such correspondence with other Evangelical Churches as will secure their coöperation in bringing the "Sabbath question" to the attention of the civil authorities of all the States. The Assembly would not recommend any overture, either as citizens or as ecclesiastics, to the Congress of the United States, until the coöperation of the great bulk of the Evangelical Churches of the whole country may be obtained.

In obedience, therefore, to the above instructions, I address you; and I need not remind you that the Sabbath is the great bulwark of our religion, which must be maintained at all hazards if we would hope to subjugate the world to our Lord and King—nor yet how that bulwark is seriously threatened, especially in the Northern portions of our country, by the constant influx of a foreign element, with views so entirely opposed to what we conceive to be the Scripture teachings on the subject.

If it will suit your convenience to do so, we would be glad to have you consider the matter, and cordially give us your views as to the propriety of petitioning Congress upon the subject, especially with reference to Sunday mail, and running of trains on the Lord's-day; and also as to your willingness to unite in any thing like a general effort to abate, if not entirely suspend, these public evils.

Yours in Christian bonds,

JAMES STACY,

Chairman General Assembly Sabbath Committee.

Newnan, Ga., May 3, 1882.

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE, REPORT NO. 1.

To Rev. James Stacy, Chairman of the Sabbath Committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church:

DEAR BROTHER:—The undersigned Committee on Fraternal Correspondence of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, by direction of said Conference, beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, of the 5th of May last, in relation to the coöperation of the several Evangelical Churches in a common and

united effort to protect, by proper legal measures, the sanctity of the Sabbath.

We cordially approve the great objects in view, and as citizens we shall most gladly aid, as we best can, in securing the proper recognition by Government, State and national, of the sacredness of the Lord's-day.

We are prepared to join you in a respectful and earnest appeal to Congress to discontinue and prohibit the making up, delivery, and transportation of mail-matter on Sunday. This point gained, a great step in advance, we can turn our attention to the police regulations of States and municipal corporations, to correct such abuses as may be reached by proper authority.

With high Christian regard, A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

E. R. Hendrix, Chairman, presented Report No. 1 of the Committee on the Centenary of American Methodism, which was read and laid on the table.

The hour appointed for the consideration of Report No. 3 of the Committee on Episcopacy having arrived, the report was taken up and discussed until the hour of adjournment. Pending the discussion, E. R. Hendrix moved to extend the time of the session to allow W. H. Potter to finish his speech.

The motion prevailed.

The Conference then adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop McTyeire.

Friday Morning, May 12, 1882.

The Conference met at the appointed hour, Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

Religious service was conducted by E. A. Yates.

The Minutes of yesterday were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop Keener took the chair, and called for reports of standing committees.

W. W. Bennett, Chairman, presented Report No. 4 of the Committee on Episcopacy, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

G. R. Browder, Chairman, presented Report No. 3 of the Committee on Boundaries, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

P. A. Peterson, Chairman, presented Report No. 4 of the Committee on Revisal, which was read.

W. H. Browning and others of the committee presented a minority report, and both reports lie on the table, under the rule.

P. P. Ellis, Chairman, presented Report No. 4 of the Committee on Finance, which was read.

O. R. Blue moved to strike out the word "non" in the report, so that the report would recommend concurrence in the proposition to strike out the words, "But in no case shall they allow any preacher to have a claim on the Church he has served as of debt, after his pastoral connection has ceased." (Discipline, Chapter IX., Section V., page 178.)

The report was laid on the table, under the rule.

W. M. Rush, Chairman, presented Report No. 1 of the Committee on Temperance, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE, REPORT NO. 1.

Your committee to whom was referred a paper touching the use of tobacco, would respectfully report that while we recognize the fact that much evil grows out of the intemperate use of tobacco, yet we would recommend no special legislation on the subject.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

W. M. Rush, Chairman, presented Report No. 2 of the Committee on Temperance, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE, REPORT NO. 2.

Your committee to whom was referred a paper asking that this General Conference take such action as will prevent the use of fermented wines in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, have carefully considered the same, and would report non-concurrence, but would at the same time recommend to our people everywhere that they be careful to procure the purest wines for this holy sacrament.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

B. Craven, Secretary, presented Report No. 2 of the Committee on Appeals, which was read, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON APPEALS, REPORT NO. 2.

A. J. Briggs, elder, of the Alabama Conference, suspended. Decision of the Alabama Conference reversed.

J. C. KEENER, President.

B. CRAVEN, Secretary.

Bishop Pierce presented a telegram from the Rev. J. H. Campbell, of Columbus, Ga., expressing sympathy with the Conference on account of the death of Dr. Summers.

An invitation from the President, Dr. Braden, to visit Central Tennessee College, was, on motion of J. E. Evans, accepted.

T. M. Cobb, clerical alternate from South-west Missouri Conference, took the place of W. C. Godbey, who had been called home.

A. W. Wilson presented a memorial from the Board of Missions, which was referred to the Committee on Missions.

D. R. McAnally, Chairman, presented Report No. 1 of the Committee on Church Extension, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

The Chair called for memorials, petitions, and appeals, and the Conferences being called in alphabetical order, the following responded:

ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial relating to the insertion of a Chapter on Temperance in the Discipline, referred to the Committee on Temperance.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—B. M. Messick, representing the Louisville Conference delegation, asked that Dr. Redford be permitted to reply to the speeches of J. B. McFerrin and James Whitworth, which were rejoinders to the former speech of Dr. Redford.

On motion of W. W. Walker, the request was refused.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—A paper from J. W. Adkisson was presented, and referred to the Committee on Education.

SOUTH-WESTERN MISSOURI CONFERENCE.—M. M. Pugh and T. M. Cobb presented a memorial in relation to the membership of District Conferences: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

WEST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial from A. H. Sutherland, W. J. Joyce, and M. N. Shive, relating to the organization of a separate Conference in the Mexican Border Mission: referred to the Committee on Missions. Also, a paper from W. J. Joyce, relating to the adoption of a plan for missions to the colored people: referred to the Committee on Missions.

P. A. Peterson moved that the call for memorials, petitions, and appeals cease after to-day.

M. S. Andrews moved to amend by inserting "to-morrow" instead of "to-day," and the motion, so amended, prevailed.

The call of the Conferences for resolutions and papers for reference to standing committees was then made, and the following responded:

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—Resolutions presented by M. S. Andrews, O. R. Blue, T. F. Mangum, W. A. McCarty, and R. B. Crawford, relating to the distribution of Conference funds: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE.—Resolutions signed by C. E. Dowman, J.

W. Proctor, H. P. Walker, and T. Turnbull, relating to a catalogue of books for Sunday-school libraries: referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

HOLSTON CONFERENCE.—A resolution signed by J. W. Gaut, J. W. Paulett, J. S. Kennedy, E. W. Moore, E. E. Wiley, W. B. Aston, P. Gallagher, T. P. Summers, and W. G. E. Cunyngham, in relation to Presiding Elders' Districts, and recommending that the Annual Conferences be authorized to determine the number: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE.—A resolution from E. N. Watson, H. Jewell, W. H. Browning, C. A. Gantt, and A. Hazen, relating to a change of boundary between the Little Rock and Louisiana Conferences: referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—Resolutions from G. R. Browder, B. M. Messick, and H. C. Morrison, in regard to a change in the Discipline: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution signed by H. C. Morrison, G. R. Browder, W. S. Johnson, J. A. Carter, B. M. Messick, S. W. Brents, and H. C. Settle, in regard to changes in the General Rules: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

MEMPHIS CONFERENCE.—A resolution signed by Guilford Jones, L. D. Mullins, and R. H. Mahon, relating to the reduction of the price of Sunday-school publications: referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—W. L. C. Hunnicutt, C. B. Galloway, I. Miller, and S. B. Watts presented a resolution relating to the form of the Stewards' Report to the Quarterly Conference: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—L. M. Wilson, H. J. Adams, and J. B. Stevenson offered a resolution relating to the assessment plan: referred to the Committee on Finance. Also, a paper from L. M. Wilson and W. A. McCarty, relating to the preparation of statistical reports of contributions to the Woman's Missionary Society: referred to the Committee on Missions.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—N. H. D. Wilson, T. M. Jones, E. J. Lilly, and T. P. Summers presented a resolution relating to a change in the law for the trial of local preachers: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution from N. H. D. Wilson, relating to a change in the law for the trial of a member of the Church: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, resolutions from N. H. D. Wilson and H. T. Hudson, in relation to statistics: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—W. H. Hughes, J. W. Fulton, J. M. Binkley, and Young Burgher offered a resolution relating to readmission of expelled members: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution signed by J. H. McLean and R. Smithson, on the membership of Quarterly and District Conferences: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—W. W. Bennett and J. S. Kennedy presented a resolution on colportage: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

P. A. Peterson and J. B. McFerrin offered the following resolutions, which were read and adopted:

Resolved, 1. That after to-morrow, May 13, the call of Conferences for resolutions be discontinued.

2. That after Tuesday next, May 16, no memorial, petition, or resolution proposing a change in the Discipline shall be received, except by a two-thirds vote of the Conference.

H. T. Hudson was substituted on the Committee on Revisal for E. A. Yates.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Missions are hereby instructed to nominate a Mission Board for the next *quadrennium*, and report to the Conference.

W. M. RUSH,

E. K. MILLER.

J. H. McLean was substituted on the Committee on Revisal for M. H. Neely.

W. H. Hughes was placed on the Committee on Revisal instead of J. M. Binkley.

T. M. Cobb was placed on the Committee on Sunday-schools instead of M. M. Pugh.

John S. Martin, Secretary of the Conference, requested that John A. Thompson be elected Assistant Secretary, which was done by the Conference.

On motion of J. E. Evans, consideration of Report No. 3 of the Committee on Episcopacy was resumed.

J. B. McFerrin moved to amend the report by recommending the election of four Bishops.

Samuel Cupples addressed the Conference, and on the expiration of his time, on motion of J. Boring, it was extended.

After the conclusion of his speech, the Conference adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Kavanaugh.

Saturday Morning, May 13, 1882.

Conference met at the appointed hour, Bishop Keener in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by N. H. D. Wilson.

The Minutes of yesterday were read, corrected, and confirmed.

On motion of R. H. Powell, the regular order was suspended, and consideration of Report No. 3 of the Committee on Episcopacy was resumed.

On motion of H. J. Adams, this vote was reconsidered, and the regular order prevailed.

Bishop Pierce took the chair, and called for reports from standing committees.

W. W. Bennett, Chairman, presented Report No. 5 of the Committee on Episcopacy, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, REPORT NO. 5.

The committee having considered some of the papers referred by the Conference, present results:

1. A paper signed J. B. McGehee, P. A. Peterson, and W. S. Black, asking legislation as to the special location in which the Bishops shall live, so as to distribute them equally, as far as practicable, through the work. The committee is of opinion that no action beyond what was suggested in Report No. 4, presented yesterday, is necessary.

2. A paper signed H. F. Johnson and C. B. Galloway, asking for an amendment to the Discipline, Section II., Chapter III., in reference to Episcopal Districts, and a suitable division of our whole territory into more compact districts, etc. The committee is of opinion that no change or amendment of said Section is necessary.

Respectfully submitted.

W. W. BENNETT, Chairman.

D. C. Kelley, Chairman, presented Report No. 4 of the Committee on Missions, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

P. A. Peterson, Chairman, presented Report No. 5 of the Committee on Revisal, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

On motion, the action of the Conference, by which the paper on the Colvin bequest was referred to the Committee on Finance was reconsidered, and the paper was referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests.

W. P. Harrison, Chairman, presented Report No. 2 of the Committee on Education, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

P. P. Ellis, Chairman, reported back a resolution from the Commit-

tee on Finance, and requested that it be referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests, which was so ordered.

W. M. Rush, Chairman, presented Report No. 3 of the Committee on Temperance, which was adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE, REPORT NO. 3.

Your committee to whom were referred divers papers asking for a restoration of Mr. Wesley's General Rule forbidding "drunkenness, buying or selling spirituous liquors, or drinking them, unless in cases of extreme necessity," have had the same under most careful consideration, and would recommend non-concurrence.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

W. M. Rush, Chairman, presented Report No. 4 of the Committee on Temperance, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

Upon the call of Conferences for memorials, petitions, and appeals, the following responded:

EAST TEXAS CONFERENCE.—A memorial was presented by John Adams in regard to Quarterly Conference business: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE.—B. M. Messick presented a memorial in relation to changes in the Discipline, Chapter III., Section II., question 3, page 72: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

The Conferences were then called in order for resolutions and papers to be referred to the standing committees, and the following responded:

ALABAMA CONFERENCE.—Resolution presented by O. R. Blue and J. B. McFerrin, in relation to the clause "and relations," Chapter I., Section II., question 1, answer 3, of the Discipline: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution signed by J. W. Portis and L. M. Wilson proposing an amendment to the General Rules: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.—A. W. Wilson, J. Stokes, and D. C. Kelley presented a resolution in reference to the establishment of a Chair of Missions in our collegiate institutions: referred to the Committee on Education.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE.—A resolution from F. Pasco and C. E. Dowman in regard to the forms for statistical reports to the Annual Conferences: referred to the Committee on Itinerancy.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE.—Resolutions signed by C. B. Galloway and H. F. Johnson proposing changes in the ritual for infant baptism: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution from S. B. Watts and I. Miller proposing a change in the Discipline in

relation to the proceedings of Quarterly Conferences: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.—Resolutions signed by E. A. Yates and L. S. Burkhead, in relation to Stewards' meetings: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE.—H. J. Adams and H. H. Parks presented resolutions proposing addition to Chapter III., Section II., answer 10, "Of duties of Bishops," page 75 of the Discipline: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE.—M. H. Neely and W. H. Hughes offered a resolution in regard to the order of Public Worship: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.—J. D. Barbee presented a resolution amending the Discipline in regard to sinful amusements: referred to the Committee on Revisal. Also, a resolution from Jordan Stokes, in regard to Episcopal visitation of Foreign Missions: referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.—Resolution offered by J. E. Edwards and Richard Irby, calling for reports from the Committee on Episcopacy in relation to the Bishops' Fund: referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

P. P. Ellis, B. F. Alexander, A. D. Bright, W. W. Walker, and P. Gallagher offered a resolution to print the Pastoral Address of the Bishops in the next edition of the Discipline: referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

A paper was presented by W. Price, H. Bishop, and W. W. Treadwell, calling for a special committee whose duty it shall be to prepare a chapter for insertion in the Discipline, to be entitled "The Bishops' Council;" also, a proposed chapter upon the subject to be referred to the committee.

A motion to lay these papers on the table did not prevail, and they were referred to the Committee on Episcopacy.

The following resolution was offered by H. F. Johnson, and adopted by the Conference:

Resolved, That when the vote shall be taken on the proposed increase of the number of Bishops, it be taken on the numbers six, five, four, and three, successively, until a number shall be agreed upon.

On motion of J. E. Evans, Report No. 3 of the Committee on Episcopacy was taken up, and discussed until the expiration of the morning session.

Conference then adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Pierce.

Monday Morning, May 15, 1882.

Conference met at 9 o'clock A.M., Bishop Pierce in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by W. S. Black.

The Minutes of Saturday were read and confirmed.

The following arrivals were announced:

J. D. Hoyle, lay delegate from the Holston Conference.

J. S. Stewart, alternate in place of James Jackson, lay delegate from North Georgia Conference.

M. C. Baldridge, lay delegate from North Alabama Conference.

Henry B. Adams, alternate lay delegate from North Carolina Conference.

J. L. Parks, second alternate, in the place of G. G. Dibrell, lay delegate from Tennessee Conference.

Bishop McTyeire presented a fraternal letter from Bishop Hood, of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

The letter was read, and, on motion of P. A. Peterson, was referred to the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence.

Bishop McTyeire presented a fraternal letter from the General Conference of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, which was read, and, on motion of A. W. Wilson, that part of the communication relating to education was referred to the Committee on Education, and so much of the paper as related to Missions was referred to the Committee on Missions.

Bishop McTyeire presented a letter of condolence on the death of Dr. Summers, from the General Conference of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America.

On motion of J. D. Vincil, the paper was referred to the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence.

Reports from standing committees were called for.

J. H. Carlisle, Chairman, presented Report No. 2 of the Committee on Sunday-schools, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

H. Jewell, from the Committee on Temperance, presented a minority report to accompany Report No. 4 of the Committee on Temperance. Both reports lie on the table, under the rule.

A minority report from T. W. Dye and others, of the Committee on Revisal, was presented, to accompany Report No. 4 of that committee. Both reports lie on the table, under the rule.

G. S. Savage, of Kentucky, presented a memorial on the Bible cause: referred to the Committee on the Bible Cause.

Bishop McTyeire presented the following telegram, just received:

McTYEIRE, Nashville, Tenn.:

Shanghai, May 15, 1882.

Harmony—Progress—Psalm xlvii.

ALLEN.

Bishop Kavanaugh read Psalm xlvii., and the Conference sung the doxology, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

The reception, in the Conference-room this morning, of a message from our missionaries in China, on the other side of the globe, was an event of thrilling interest.

J. E. Evans moved to take up Report No. 3 of the Committee on Episcopacy, and the motion prevailed.

W. W. Bennett, chairman of the committee, addressed the Conference, after which W. H. Browning moved that the main question be now taken, and it was so ordered—ayes, 153; noes, 71.

The vote was then taken by ayes and noes, the first proposition being to elect six new Bishops; it did not prevail—ayes, 88; noes, 151.

On motion the session was prolonged.

The second proposition being to elect five new Bishops, the vote was taken by ayes and noes, and it was decided in the affirmative—ayes, 130; noes, 106.

On motion of H. F. Johnson, the Conference resolved to proceed to the election of five Bishops to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

The Conference then adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Keener.

Tuesday Morning, May 16, 1882.

Conference met at the appointed hour, Bishop Kavanaugh in the chair.

Divine service by G. H. Hayes.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Bishop McTyeire took the chair.

J. B. Palmer, as first alternate, appeared and took his seat, in place of G. G. Dibrell, lay delegate from the Tennessee Conference.

The Chair called for reports from standing committees.

W. W. Bennett, Chairman, presented Report No. 6 of the Committee on Episcopacy, which was read and lies on the table, under the rule.

S. Rodgers, Chairman, presented Report No. 6 of the Committee on Itinerancy which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, REPORT NO. 6.

Your Committee, in the further examination of Conference Journals, would report:

South-west Missouri Conference Journal.—This Journal is complete except one class of omissions, which is large. The Secretary failed in numerous instances to record the question under which business was transacted. Frequently the questions are *numbered* on the margin, but not written.

A common error, for which Conference Secretaries are not responsible, appears in this Journal, viz.: Question 20 is called (Are all the preachers blameless in their life and official administration?). Under said question brethren are placed on the supernumerary and superannuated lists, and deceased members are reported, without calling the question appropriate to such business. There is no remedy for such errors, or protection for Secretaries, unless the Presidents of Conferences conform strictly to the law, and see that every question is called where any item of business requires it.

The Journal under consideration was not signed by the President of the Conference at its session in 1878. This Journal is characterized by neatness, taste, proper headings, and full marginal notes, and evidences much care and painstaking labor on the part of the Secretary.

Tennessee Conference Journal.—This Journal is a complete record of Conference work. Marginal notes full, headings complete, signatures of presiding officers affixed, execution almost faultless.

In the Journal of 1881, page 61, question 12, What traveling preachers are elected elders? Under this question, E. S. Jones is superannuated, F. L. Carpenter is located at his own request, E. Dickens and J. Gibson are continued deacons of one year, and S. W. Parks and J. N. Handlin's characters are examined and passed, and nothing more said of them.

In the Journal of 1880-1881, question 16, S. I. Martin is located without stating whether it was or was not at his own request.

Journal of 1879, page 356, question 4, Who are admitted into full connection? W. R. Sebastian is discontinued.

Page 360, question 12, What traveling preachers are elected elders? Under this question, S. M. Griffin is granted a supernumerary relation.

Missouri Conference Journal.—This Journal is a model which the average Secretary would do well to study; and when there are objections to be found, they are generally of a minor character, or attributable to other causes than want of skill on the part of the Secretary.

The marginal index is generally lacking, and also, for the most part, the running-head. These, especially the former, contribute in no small degree to the completeness and finish of a Journal.

The questions are generally recorded and numbered properly; but the numbers are generally in the body of the Journal, so that they cannot be easily found—especially as the Secretary writes very compactly, and frequently introduces a new subject on the same line with the close of another. It would be better if every paragraph were spaced as well as punctuated.

On pages 602 and 603, local deacons and elders are elected with no statement that they were properly recommended.

On page 606, session of 1878, ordinations are reported without any question, either written or numbered. Page 613 shows the reading of the appointments of preachers without any question, written or numbered. The same occurs in other cases. (See pages 612, 674, 676.)

On page 685, concerning election of delegates, the Journal states only that the Conference is entitled to five clerical delegates and five lay, but does not give the number of members of the Conference, clerical and lay, which is a deficiency.

From the Journal of the session of 1878, pages 541, 547, and 551, it appeared: Maladministration in the case of a preacher, and a committee was appointed who reported that a trial was necessary, but reported no charge or specifications, nor any one to prosecute. The Secretary adds: "The Bishop said it was not necessary." The committee of nine was then appointed, and they reported charges, specifications, and finding, at one and the same time.

In the Journal of 1881, page 677, a committee is appointed to investigate; reported a trial necessary, but report no charges or specifications. Afterward the committee of nine was appointed, and they reported their finding by number—that is, mentioning such and such specifications as sustained, but neither here nor in the appendix are the charges and specifications given, and it is impossible for the future historian of the Church to decide whether the unfortunate brother committed murder, or became involved in some other complication, and so suffered excision.

The Journal of the White River Conference has many excellent qualities, among which its clear chirography, the running-heads, and the marginal index must be approved. But there are objections of too grave a character to be passed over in silence. In many cases, as on pages 315, 317, 318, and 319, men are disposed of without the statement of the appropriate question, and sometimes business belonging to one question is transacted under another.

In the appendix to the session of 1878, instead of the report of a Committee on Appeals, the Secretary certifies that the report did not

come into his hands. Also, in the appendix to session of 1879, a number of reports are omitted with no explanation. Also, in the appendix to session of 1880, the Secretary certifies that a number of reports are lost, and not recorded for that reason. In the session of 1880, page 437, the Journal states that various persons, under question 10, were elected to the order of deacon, but does not give the name of the circuit, nor state that they were recommended by Quarterly Conferences.

On page 438, under question 14, that John F. Phillips was elected elder, but no recommendation from a Quarterly Conference is stated. Page 440 states that Bishop Pierce was *granted leave* of absence for the rest of the session.

On page 465 same, it is stated that the Bishop, being required to leave Conference, placed Rev. John M. Steel in the chair, and it appears that he, on the appointment of the Bishop, occupied the chair until the close of the session. This is contrary to the Discipline of the Church, which provides that in the absence of the Bishop the Conference shall elect a President by ballot. (Page 44, question 5.)

On page 487, under question 4, it is stated that one is received into full connection from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. It does not state that he comes regularly from a Quarterly Conference, and, in a word, it is manifest that the record is incorrect, or the action was illegal.

Touching the election of delegates to the General Conference, the Journal only states that the election was held and resulted as follows—leaving out the number of members, clerical and lay, the number of delegates to which the Conference is entitled, the number of ballots and votes cast on each ballot, all of which is necessary to a perfect Journal. Page 495 states that R. H. Payne, coming from the Free-will Baptist Church, was recognized as a local elder. This under question 14. It should state that he was recommended by a Quarterly Conference and certified to his belief in doctrine and discipline.

The worst deficiency, however, to be noticed, is that in the session of 1879. *No statistics* are reported.

Memphis Conference Journal.—In some instances the disciplinary questions are not recorded through the items of business, or correctly stated. The marginal references are deficient.

Persons are elected to deacon's and elder's orders, but the fact that they had stood an approved examination is not mentioned.

Occasionally the answers to some of the questions are not sufficiently full and explicit. But in the main this Journal has been well kept.

SAMUEL RODGERS, Chairman.

JOHN A. THOMPSON, Secretary.

S. Rodgers, Chairman, presented Report No. 7 of the Committee on Itinerancy, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, REPORT NO. 7.

Your committee, since their last Report, have examined the following Journals, and report:

North-west Texas Conference Journal.—Penmanship good, headings proper, marginal notes full except several days of one session.

The principal defect of this Journal, and it constantly appears, is the recording of the various transactions of the Conference without numbering or writing the questions. Indeed, many questions are never asked.

In a number of instances question 20 is made the prolific source of more business than the law allows. Locations and deaths are reported under that head. Parties are granted supernumerary and superannuated relations under the same head.

Another class of omissions is notable: In each year's minutes ordinations of deacons and elders, traveling and local, are reported, but no questions are asked, numbered, or written.

Page 21, under question 20, we find this entry: "M. L. Martin and W. E. Weaver were granted a super-do-nothing."

Page 96, we find this statement: "The action of the last Annual Conference locating A. D. Shook was reconsidered, thus placing him on the effective list."

Page 112, under question 20, is found this entry: "The list of superannuated members was called, and their characters passed."

We find repeatedly that transfers were announced, discontinuances allowed, candidates from first to second year, deacons elected, and appointments announced, without any questions being asked.

There is a continuous habit of recording the statistical table in the Journal in the midst of the proceedings. In one instance question 20 was under consideration, and several names of elders were called, where the statistical table was recorded. At the conclusion of the table the names of elders appear, and business continued under question 20. The introduction of the table at such places of the Journal produces confusion. The table should be placed in the appendix.

On page 7 is this: The committee appointed to investigate the case of J. A. W., reported as follows: "Your committee judge a trial necessary." No charge is recorded, no specification given, and no one appointed to prosecute.

Western Virginia Conference Journal.—In raising a question which

has been previously called occasionally the number is given but the question is not written.

In reporting and recording the names of lay delegates at the opening of the twenty-fifth session, page 100, twenty-sixth session, page 161, and twenty-seventh session, page 218, the districts from which they came are not given.

The sessions of 1880 and 1881 are not signed by the President. The running-headings complete; marginal notes full; penmanship fair. The Journal is commendably free from blots, interlineations, and erasures.

St. Louis Conference Journal.—At the opening of the thirty-first session the roll of clerical members is called, but no roll of lay members, and there is nothing to show that any lay members were present at the opening, or at any time during the session. (See page 332 of Journal.) On pages 341 and 342, a committee of examination reports a trial to be necessary, and the committee of trial is appointed, but there is no record in this connection of the charges and specifications, or of any thing to indicate the nature of the offense.

On page 343, this committee of trial report that they have found the accused guilty of crime expressly forbidden in the word of God, and have expelled him from the ministry and membership of the Methodist Church, but the charges and specifications are not given. On page 347, it is stated that the Conference voted on change of Discipline recommended by the General Conference, but it is not stated how the Conference voted, nor is the number of votes mentioned.

On page 349, the distribution of Conference funds is given, but questions 27 and 28 are not called, and the answer to question 27 is not given, except in appendix, or summary. This appendix, or summary, however, gives all the regular minute questions and answers.

On page 387, a local preacher is elected deacon, but it is not stated that he was recommended by any Quarterly Conference. On same page, several traveling preachers are elected elders, but it is not stated that they passed an approved examination on the Course of Study.

On page 390, it is stated that the Conference met and proceeded to finish the business of the session. Appended to this are the signatures of the President and Secretary, while the business referred to is recorded afterward in another place.

Minutes of session of 1880 are not signed by the presiding Bishop. In the election of delegates to the General Conference, pages 9 and 10 of new Journal, there is no declaration of the number of members of the Conference, but the ballots are recorded accurately. The minutes

of the session of 1881 (see page 18 of new Journal) are not signed by the presiding Bishop. Besides the above, we find many irregularities and errors.

German Mission Conference Journal.—This Journal has no running-heading and no marginal index. The frequent omission to raise the questions, prescribed in the order of business for an Annual Conference, is a defect. (See pages 36 and 37.)

In the election of persons to deacon's and elder's orders and admission into traveling connection, the omissions to state that they have passed the usual examinations are too frequent. On page 39 no mention is made of who was in the chair and who opened the session. In the session of 1879 questions 21, 22, 23, 27, and 29, are neither asked nor answered during the session.

The names of the members of the Joint Board of Finance for 1879 are nowhere given, though their report is recorded and signed by the chairman.

Indiana Conference Journal.—No running-headings. No marginal index, page 30. The roll is said to have been called, but no names given.

Page 31, several persons are said to have been admitted on trial, but the Quarterly Conferences that recommended them are not given.

In a few instances the questions are not raised, though the answers are stated.

SAMUEL RODGERS, Chairman.

JOHN A. THOMPSON, Secretary.

Samuel Rodgers, Chairman, presented Report No. 8 of the Committee on Itinerancy, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

G. R. Browder, Chairman, presented Report No. 4 of the Committee on Boundaries, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES, REPORT NO. 4.

Your committee have carefully considered a memorial to change the boundary between the Little Rock and Louisiana Conferences, asking the transfer of certain territory in Little Rock to Louisiana Conference, and we recommend the following change in said boundary, viz.: Leave the Mississippi River above Lakeport on the township line between township Sixteen and Seventeen in Chicot county, Arkansas, run thence due west on said line to Boeuf River, thence south to the Louisiana State line; this to be the boundary line between said Conferences in said territory.

Respectfully submitted.

G. R. BROWDER, Chairman.

D. C. Kelley, Chairman, presented Report No. 5 of the Committee on Missions, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

D. C. Kelley, Chairman, presented Report No. 6 of the Committee on Missions, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

P. A. Peterson, Chairman, presented Report No. 6 of the Committee on Revisal, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

P. A. Peterson, Chairman, presented Report No. 7 of the Committee on Revisal, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

The hour appointed for the election of Bishops having arrived, the presiding Bishop, McTyeire, appointed the following tellers:

F. Pasco, of the Florida Conference.

C. B. Galloway, of the Mississippi Conference.

George Thornburg, of the White River Conference.

J. W. Fulton, of the North Texas Conference.

On motion of H. J. Adams, it was ordered that the chairman of each delegation collect the ballots of his delegation, and deposit them when the name of his Conference is called.

The report of the Committee on Episcopacy was read and adopted, as amended, viz.:

COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, REPORT NO. 3.

The Committee on Episcopacy having carefully and patiently considered that portion of the Episcopal Address which refers to the strengthening of our General Superintendency, and also a resolution and sundry papers referred by the Conference, bearing on the same question, beg leave to present the following for the consideration and action of the General Conference:

Whereas, under the blessings of God, the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is growing rapidly in numbers, extent of territory, in the scope and promise of her missionary operations at home and abroad, and in awakened zeal in behalf of the great work of religious education; and whereas this growth of the Church imperatively demands a large amount of Episcopal supervision in the Pacific Conferences, in Texas, New Mexico, Mexico, and the border States and Territories, in China and Brazil, as well as Episcopal encouragement to our great educational institutions for both sexes, in the older Conferences; therefore,

Resolved, That the General Conference elect five traveling elders to the office of Bishop in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Respectfully submitted.

W. W. BENNETT, Chairman.

The Chair gave out the lines of hymn 624, "Teach me, my God and

King," and the Conference sung the hymn, after which T. L. Boswell led in prayer.

The first ballot for Bishops was then taken, and the Secretaries reported that 241 votes had been cast, of which number 121 were necessary to a choice.

Alpheus W. Wilson received 122 votes; A. G. Haygood, 119; Linus Parker, 96; John C. Granbery, 94; R. K. Hargrove, 68; N. H. D. Wilson, 49; R. A. Young, 42; E. R. Hendrix, 38; O. P. Fitzgerald, 35; W. M. Rush, 34; P. A. Peterson, 32; Young J. Allen, 32; B. M. Messick, 28; J. S. Key, 26; W. T. Harris, 25; C. G. Andrews, 25; Josephus Anderson, 22; E. E. Wiley, 20; W. V. Tudor, 18; J. B. McFerrin, 15; J. D. Shaw, 14; C. W. Miller, 13; J. W. Hinton, 13; H. C. Morrison, 12; B. Craven, 11; W. W. Duncan, 11; W. W. Bennett, 11; E. M. Bounds, 10.

A large number of votes were cast for persons who received less than 10 each, the whole number of scattering votes amounting to 171.

Alpheus W. Wilson having received 122 votes, a majority of all the votes cast, was declared duly elected a Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

On motion of D. R. McAnally, the Conference adjourned, to meet at 4 o'clock P.M. The benediction was pronounced by Bishop Pierce.

Tuesday Afternoon, May 16, 1882.

The Conference met at the appointed hour, Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

Religious service was conducted by J. M. Binkley.

The Minutes of the morning session were read and confirmed.

Bishop McTyeire presented a paper from the American Colonization Society, which was read, and referred to the Committee on Revisal.

The election of four Bishops being the order of the day, the Conference proceeded to the second ballot.

There were 239 votes cast, of which 120 were necessary to a choice.

Linus Parker received 146 votes; Atticus G. Haygood, 144; John C. Granbery, 140; R. K. Hargrove, 118; N. H. D. Wilson, 48; E. R. Hendrix, 33; O. P. Fitzgerald, 30; W. M. Rush, 29; Young J. Allen, 27; W. T. Harris, 21; C. G. Andrews, 21; B. M. Messick, 20; P. A. Peterson, 15; J. D. Shaw, 10.

Scattering votes, less than 10 votes for each person, 83.

The Chair announced that Linus Parker, having received 146 votes, Atticus G. Haygood, 144 votes, and John C. Granbery, 140 votes, were duly elected Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

The third ballot was then taken. Whole number of votes cast 237; of which 119 were necessary to a choice.

Robert K. Hargrove received 173 votes; R. A. Young, 18; N. H. D. Wilson, 17; E. R. Hendrix, 10. Scattering, 19.

The Chair announced that Robert K. Hargrove, having received 173 votes, a majority of all the votes cast, was duly elected a Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

The Conference, on motion of B. Craven, then adjourned.

Wednesday Morning, May 17, 1882.

Conference met at 9 o'clock A.M., Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by J. B. A. Ahrens.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Bishop Keener took the chair.

J. W. Paulett, alternate, took the place of P. Gallagher, lay delegate from the Holston Conference.

R. H. Powell, alternate, took the place of J. T. Harris, lay delegate from the Alabama Conference.

Reports of standing committees being called for,

R. Smithson, from the Committee on Revisal, presented a minority report to accompany Report No. 5 of that committee. The minority report lies on the table, under the rule.

R. W. Jones, from the Committee on Sunday-schools, presented Report No. 3 of that committee, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

R. W. Jones, from the Committee on Sunday-schools, presented Report No. 4 of that committee, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, REPORT NO. 4.

The Committee on Sunday-schools, appointed by the General Conference of 1878, and composed of N. T. Lupton, James H. Carlisle, T. J. Magruder, William M. McCarthy, and John P. McFerrin, submitted a report to this General Conference which was referred to your committee, who, having considered it and heartily indorsing it, respectfully recommend its publication by our Sunday-school Department, and distribution among our people.

JAMES H. CARLISLE, Chairman.

R. W. JONES, Secretary.

W. W. Walker, Chairman, presented Report No. 5 of the Committee on Publishing Interests, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS, REPORT NO. 5.

Your committee to whom was referred so much of the report of the Agent of the Publishing House as refers to the Colvin bequest for the benefit of the widows and orphans, would respectfully report: That James T. Colvin, who died in Hamburg, Iowa, in 1874, bequeathed to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, for the use and benefit of the widows and orphans of the traveling preachers of the said Church, who died in the traveling connection, the sum of \$10,000, and in addition to this sum "all the rest, residue, and remainder" of his personal estate and money, after paying his debts, expenses, and other bequests named in the will. The amount so bequeathed was, by the provision of the will of said Colvin, to be a permanent fund for the object named, and "invested in the most advantageous manner, and the interest and proceeds to be appropriated for the use and benefit of said widows and orphans, under the direction of the General Conference."

There has been received from the executor of the will of said deceased the following sums, to wit: On the 10th day of July, 1877, eight thousand dollars; and on the 24th day of July, 1877, one thousand dollars; on which amount interest was calculated at 4 per cent. to July 1, 1880, and the principal and interest, aggregating ten thousand two hundred and twenty-five dollars, was funded in 4 per cent. Publishing House bonds. There was also received from said bequest the following sums, to wit: On the 1st day of April, 1879, eight hundred dollars, and on the 24th day of September, 1880, the sum of five hundred and nine dollars and fifty-four cents. Part of these sums was loaned to Settle & Kinnaird, and the remainder invested in county warrants.

The Agent of the Publishing House reports that he has now on hand, for the objects and purposes above named, the following amounts and funds, to wit:

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Four per cent. Publishing House bonds..... | \$10,225 00 |
| Coupons due thereon, January, 1882..... | 613 50 |
| Note on Settle & Kinnaird, due on demand..... | 800 00 |
| Interest due on same to May, 1882..... | 76 80 |
| County warrants at par..... | 638 78 |
| Accrued interest on same to May, 1882.. | 10 95 |
| Cash..... | 23 72 |

Total..... \$12,388 75

As will be observed, of the above sum \$10,309.54 is principal, and \$2,079.21 is interest.

We find that, for reasons stated to us by the Business Manager, no appropriation of the interest on said fund has ever been made to the purpose named by the testator.

We find that the amount invested in bonds was for bonds at face value, when in fact they are only worth not more than sixty-six and two-third cents to the dollar.

As will be seen from the above statement, this fund is only drawing four per cent. interest. We do not think that this rate of interest fully meets the provision of the will of the testator, wherein he requires the principal to be "invested to the best advantage," as money ought to be, and is, in our opinion, worth six per cent.

Taking the above statement as a basis of calculation, and without compounding the interest, we find that there is due from the Publishing House to said fund the following amounts, viz.:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Amount paid, July 10, 1877..... | \$8,000 00 |
| Six per cent. interest on this to May 1, 1882..... | 2,306 66 |
| Amount paid July 24, 1877..... | 1,000 00 |
| Six per cent. interest on this to May 1, 1882..... | 286 00 |
| Amount paid April 1, 1879 | 800 00 |
| Six per cent. interest to May 1, 1882..... | 148 00 |
| Amount paid September 24, 1880 | 509 54 |
| Six per cent. interest to May 1, 1882 | 48 90 |
| Total due this fund | \$13,099 10 |

Of this sum, \$10,309.54 is principal, and \$2,789.56 is interest.

In view of the fact that this fund was created by a bequest for the benefit of the widows and orphans of itinerant preachers who have died in the itinerancy; that the Book Agent, who is an officer of the General Conference, is made the trustee of the fund; that the Conference itself is charged by the testator with the responsibility of caring for it, and seeing that it is invested securely, so that the interest for all time to come may be applied to the purpose for which the bequest was made, we are of the opinion that our duty, alike to the dead testator and the living beneficiaries, is to see to it that this charity is faithfully administered; and to give assurance to any who may be inclined to make similar bequest that their wishes will be held as sacred, and their gifts guarded with scrupulous fidelity. While, therefore, we believe the bonds of the Publishing House are as well secured as its creditors can reasonably desire, and as likely to be paid as those of almost any other corporation, we are of the opinion that the Colvin

fund ought, if possible, to be placed beyond all the contingencies and vicissitudes to which all business enterprises are liable, and made as nearly as can be absolutely secure; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That in view of all the circumstances, we approve the action of the Book Agent and Book Committee in investing in the *bonds* of the Publishing House that portion of the Colvin fund which had, in our judgment, been unwisely put into the *business* of the House before their administration commenced; but that it ought now to be restored to its full amount, and securely invested in first mortgages on unincumbered real estate, at not less than six per cent. interest, and that the real estate on which it may be loaned ought to be twice the value of the sum loaned on it.

2. That the Agent be directed to dispose of the bonds for the best price he can obtain; that the Book Committee of the Publishing House shall ascertain the sum that had been invested in the business of the Publishing House, and the full interest thereon at six per cent. per annum, and whatever may be the deficit—*i. e.*, the difference between the principal and interest and the sum realized from the sale of the bonds—shall be directed by the Book Committee to be paid out of the business of the Publishing House from time to time as the condition of the House will allow, with interest at six per cent. per annum, until paid; or the Book Committee may take up and retire said bonds by paying them at par value and with interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum. The same to be done by either mode before July 1, 1883. The statement of the amount so vested in the business of the Publishing House, with the interest, is believed to be correctly stated in this report, and, if found to be so, may be adopted by the Book Agent and Book Committee.

3. That on the first day of July, 1882, and annually thereafter, the Book Agent shall apportion to the several Annual Conferences the interest on said fund on the basis of the number of the widows and orphans of deceased traveling preachers, to be ascertained by certified returns from the Secretaries of the several Annual Conferences, which sum so apportioned shall be placed in the hands of the Chairman of the Board of Finance of the Annual Conferences, who shall receipt for the same, and a certificate of the amount thereof shall also be sent by the Book Agent to the Secretary of each Annual Conference. The amounts so apportioned shall be by the Boards of Finance aforesaid divided among the beneficiaries. The first apportionment shall include all arrears of interest to the date of it.

W. W. WALKER, Chairman.

P. P. Ellis, Chairman, presented Report No. 5 of the Committee on Finance, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, REPORT NO. 5.

Your committee, to whom was referred the paper signed by L. M. Wilson, H. J. Adams, and J. B. Stevenson, asking that this body take into consideration the propriety of so amending the "assessment plan" of collecting the salary of preachers as to make the same mandatory upon the stewards, would respectfully report that the paper has had due consideration, and your committee are of opinion that a due enforcement of the present law by those in authority will accomplish the object desired, and therefore recommend that no further action be taken by the Conference.

P. P. ELLIS, Chairman.

J. W. FULTON, Secretary.

A. M. Shipp, Chairman, presented Report No. 3 of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE, REPORT NO. 3.

The Committee on Fraternal Correspondence present for adoption by the Conference, the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the College of Bishops be authorized and requested to appoint a delegation, consisting of one minister and one layman, to bear the fraternal greetings of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to the General Conference of the Methodist Church, to convene at Philadelphia in May, 1884; that they select one of their own number to perform the like office at the session of the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada in September next, at Kingston, and that they convey by letter or representative, at discretion, to all other Churches in fraternal relations with us, assurances of our Christian sympathy and love.

A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

W. M. Rush, Chairman, presented Report No. 5 of the Committee on Temperance, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

R. B. Crawford presented a memorial from Eufaula, Ala., which was referred to the Committee on Missions.

P. A. Peterson, by consent of two-thirds of the Conference, presented a resolution to amend Chapter III., Section II., of the Discipline: referred to the Committee on Revisal.

Bishop McTyeire presented the following letter, which was read:

Church of the Strangers, 4 Winthrop Place, New York, May 11, 1882.

REV. BISHOP MCTYEIRE—*My Dear Friend*: If you think it proper, do me the favor to convey to the General Conference the expression

of my sincere sympathy with the keen sense of bereavement felt by the Conference and the whole Church at the departure of Rev. Dr. Summers. For him I should have nothing but congratulations. In all history I knew no Christian who in his dying had his ideal so realized as Thomas O. Summers.

And if this communication be made to the Conference, they may also know that I pray that humility, concord, and wisdom may shape all the actions of the session; that the Lord keep you, and bless you; that the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; that the Lord lift his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Affectionately and faithfully yours, CHARLES F. DEEMS.

On motion of D. R. McAnally, the report of the Committee on Church Extension was taken up.

Article I. of the Constitution of the Church Extension Society was discussed and adopted.

Article II., on motion of W. C. Ireland, was amended by inserting the words "to hold their offices until their successors are elected, and accept their offices," and the Article, so amended, was adopted.

O. P. Fitzgerald moved to reconsider the vote by which Article I. was adopted, and the motion prevailed.

S. Rodgers moved to make the report the order of the day for 10 o'clock to-morrow. The motion prevailed.

The following communication was presented, and read to the Conference:

To the Bishops and Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

MY DEAR AND HONORED BRETHREN:—I am deeply moved by your action yesterday, in electing me a Bishop of our beloved Church. Though I might well fear the responsibility of the office, I do not shrink from its labors. Yet, with a clear conviction and a deep sense of my duty to God and to my fellow-men, I respectfully and humbly decline to accept the position to which you have called me.

I cannot, with a good conscience, lay down the work which I have now in hand.

With perfect respect and abiding love, I am truly your brother,

ATTICUS G. HAYGOOD.

Nashville, Tenn., May 17, 1882.

H. J. Adams moved that the declination of A. G. Haygood be accepted.

J. Boring moved, as a substitute, that the consideration of the paper be postponed until to-morrow, 12 o'clock. The substitute prevailed.

The following resolution was introduced, read, and referred to the Committee on Missions:

Resolved, That the Committee on Missions be, and are hereby, instructed to ascertain, and report to this Conference, an itemized statement showing the amount of money expended upon the various missions of the Church, during the last four years; and also the present deficit of the Missionary Treasury, and during what period this deficit has been created; and also the sum this deficit is likely to reach by the time the sessions of the Annual Conferences begin.

W. W. BENNETT, W. W. DUNCAN,
W. W. WALKER, F. B. CARROLL,
A. D. BRIGHT, R. N. SLEDD,
N. H. D. WILSON, W. S. BLACK,
W. C. DOUB.

On motion of H. W. Foote, it was ordered that the reports of committees shall be considered in the order of precedence given them on the Journal.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on Education was taken up, and, on motion of W. W. Bennett, it was adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, REPORT NO. 1.

Your committee have had under consideration that part of the Bishops' Address which relates to the claims of the negro population in the South and South-west so far as their educational wants are concerned, and beg leave to submit the following report:

1. We note with pleasure the statement, coming from so competent a source, that this people upon whom our Church has in times past bestowed much labor, but who more recently, in their changed relations, have for the most part been turned away from us, are again becoming accessible to our ministry; and we heartily concur in the recommendation that the opportunity thus afforded to preach to their congregations be diligently improved.

2. To the claims of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, which sustains a peculiar and providential relation to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the Address invites especial attention; chiefly for the purpose of determining what may be done by us to assist them in obtaining facilities for providing themselves with suitable pastors and teachers of their own race. They have no institution under their management for the education of those who are to occupy their pulpits and preside in their schools. Their preachers and teachers, if educated at all, must for the most part be edu-

cated by those who are not in sympathy with their organization. If they are to make any progress, or even to maintain their existence, they must provide for the education of those who are to take charge of their schools and religious congregations. Of themselves they are not able to do this. They have neither the money to establish schools nor the men competent to conduct them; and they look to us for aid. As what we have done for them in setting them up for themselves creates the necessity of doing more for them, so this fact justifies the expectation on their part that we will do all that we can. But what can we do that we have not already done, or are now doing? Our people in the South have cheerfully borne their share in providing, by general and special legislation, for the educational wants of the colored race. We have endeavored to encourage in every way the promotion of common-school education among them. But in secular schools their preachers and missionaries cannot get the training essential to their work. The Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, which looks especially to us for encouragement and aid, is in pressing need at this point; therefore, be it

Resolved, That our Bishops be authorized and requested to appoint, in consultation with the Bishops of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, a preacher or layman of our Church, properly qualified for the work, who shall be a Commissioner of Education in aid of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, whose duty it shall be to solicit subscriptions, contributions, donations, and bequests from whatever source he may find accessible, for the purpose of creating an Educational Fund for the benefit of said Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America.

2. That our Bishops be also authorized and requested to appoint three members of our Church, who, together with the Commissioner of Education and three members of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, to be appointed by their Bishops, shall constitute a Board of Trustees for the custody and control of this Educational Fund when it shall have been raised.

3. That the Commissioner of Education herein provided for be appointed a committee of one to see that the said Board of Trustees be completed in legal form by securing proper acts of incorporation.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. P. HARRISON, Chairman.

On motion, W. Price, of North-west Texas Conference, was granted leave of absence for five days.

Leave of absence was granted to the following: T. J. Swearingen,

Texas Conference; C. A. Gantt, Little Rock Conference; J. R. Willis, South-west Missouri Conference; John McIntosh, lay delegate from Western Virginia Conference, his place being supplied by J. V. Stewart, alternate.

N. Scarritt took the place of J. R. Willis on the Committee on Missions.

C. I. Vandeventer moved that when the Conference adjourn it adjourn to meet at 8 o'clock P.M. The motion did not prevail.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Education was taken up, and after some discussion, item 1 was adopted.

Pending the consideration of item 2 the hour of adjournment arrived.

Bishop Pierce announced that the Bishops elect will be ordained to-morrow, at 4 P.M., in the audience-room of McKendree Church.

Conference adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Pierce.

Thursday Morning, May 18, 1882.

The Conference met at 9 o'clock, Bishop Keener in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by W. A. McCarty.

The Minutes of yesterday morning were read, corrected, and approved.

Bishop Pierce took the chair.

W. W. Bennett, Chairman, presented Report No. 7 of the Committee on Episcopacy, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, REPORT NO. 7.

The committee have considered a paper signed Jordan Stokes, in reference to Episcopal visitation of our mission-fields, and think that no action on this subject is necessary.

Also, a paper signed J. E. Edwards and W. W. Walker, in reference to Episcopal visitation to the Presiding Elders' Districts, and requiring such visitation to be made previous to the sessions of the Annual Conferences over which the Bishops are to preside, instead of afterward. The committee are of opinion that no action is necessary.

The question of conducting Annual Conferences was considered upon a paper presented to the committee by John B. McFerrin, and, after full discussion, the committee adopted the following, which is presented and recommended for adoption by the Conference:

Resolved, 1. That in the judgment of this committee sufficient time should be given at all the Annual Conferences for full opportunity of deliberately transacting the business of the Conference, and that suffi-

cient time should be taken to deliberate carefully the stationing of the preachers.

2. That the adjournment of the Annual Conferences on Sunday night is inexpedient, and makes a bad impression on the public mind, and should be avoided, unless in cases of extreme necessity.

3. That the Bishops be earnestly requested to so arrange the dates of the meeting of the Annual Conferences as to give themselves full time to conduct the business of the Conferences.

Respectfully submitted.

W. W. BENNETT, Chairman.

T. H. B. Anderson obtained leave to present a memorial on Missions, and it was referred to the Committee on Missions.

P. A. Peterson, Chairman, presented Report No. 8 of the Committee on Revisal, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

P. A. Peterson, Chairman, presented Report No. 9 of the Committee on Revisal, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

P. A. Peterson reported back a paper relating to the publication of Minutes, and it was referred to the Committee on Publishing Interests. Also, a paper, which was referred to the Committee on Sunday-schools.

W. P. Harrison, Chairman, presented Report No. 3 of the Committee on Education, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

The Committee on Appeals presented Report No. 3, which was read, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON APPEALS, REPORT NO. 3.

Louis Kendall, elder, of the Mississippi Conference, expelled. Remanded to the Mississippi Conference for a new trial.

J. C. KEENER, President.

B. CRAVEN, Secretary.

A. M. Shipp, Chairman, presented Report No. 4 of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE, REPORT NO. 4.

The Committee on Fraternal Correspondence present for adoption the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That this Conference has heard with deep emotion the expressions of sympathy in the resolutions adopted by the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, on the death of the Rev. Thomas O. Summers, D.D., LL.D., and hereby record on the Journal the profound sense of loss which said Church feels in view of the relation of the deceased to Christian literature, to Methodism everywhere, and in particular to themselves as a father and friend in the best sense of the word.

A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

The Rev. Dr. Hunt, Secretary of the American Bible Society, was introduced to the Conference.

By consent, A. H. Sutherland and M. N. Shive, of West Texas Conference, presented a memorial in regard to the Spanish version of the Scriptures, which was referred to the Committee on the Bible Cause.

W. C. Ireland presented the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Chair to wait upon Mrs. James K. Polk, and ascertain at what time it will suit her pleasure and convenience to receive a call from the General Conference in a body, it being the desire of the Conference to manifest their respect and regard for her in this manner.

W. C. IRELAND, E. R. HENDRIX,
W. W. WALKER, JOHN D. VINCIL,
JAMES WHITWORTH.

Ten o'clock having arrived, the order of the day—the report of the Committee on Church Extension—was taken up.

R. Hiner offered the following as a substitute for Article I.:

Resolved, That said Church Extension shall be under the control and direction of the several Annual Conferences, through their Boards of Missions, in all respects as the funds raised for Domestic Missions are now assessed, apportioned, and distributed.

R. HINER, J. W. PROCTOR,
C. W. MILLER, H. P. WALKER,
J. W. FITCH.

Pending the discussion of the subject, leave of absence was granted to the following delegates: W. I. Green, South Georgia Conference; F. H. Welch, North Texas Conference; Irwin Miller, Mississippi Conference; W. E. Parrish and W. S. Johnson, Louisville Conference.

The consideration of the report on Church Extension was resumed.

R. Smithson moved that the vote be now taken on the substitute of R. Hiner, which motion was adopted; and the vote being taken, the substitute did not prevail.

Article I. of the report was then adopted.

Article II. was adopted.

The hour of 12 having arrived, to which time the consideration of the letter of A. G. Haygood had been postponed,

G. Thornburg offered the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas this General Conference has fully performed its resolution to elect five Bishops; therefore,

Resolved, That we take no further action in the matter.

F. Law and E. R. Hendrix offered the following as a substitute for the paper offered by G. Thornburg:

Whereas this General Conference did resolve to elect five Bishops, and in accordance with said resolution elected that number; and whereas one of those, so elected, has declined to be consecrated to said office; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this General Conference elect no other Bishop.

The vote was taken on the substitute, and it was adopted.

The report of the Committee on Church Extension was resumed.

Article III. was adopted.

Article IV. was read, and N. Scarritt offered an amendment, which was adopted; and the Article, as amended, was adopted.

Article V. was read, and C. I. Vandeventer offered to amend by providing that one-half of the amount raised within the Conference shall be under control of the Conference Board.

Pending the discussion, a motion to meet at 8 o'clock this evening was made, but did not prevail.

J. E. Edwards moved that hereafter the Conference meet at 8:30 o'clock A.M., and the motion prevailed.

The following Committee of Arrangements for the visit to Mrs. Polk was announced, viz.: W. C. Ireland, D. R. McAnally, and James Whitworth.

Conference then adjourned, with the benediction by the Rev. Dr. Hunt, Secretary of the American Bible Society.

ORDINATION
OF
BISHOPS WILSON, PARKER, GRANBERY, AND
HARGROVE.

The ordination of ALPHEUS WATERS WILSON, LINUS PARKER, JOHN COWPER GRANBERY, and ROBERT KENNON HARGROVE, as Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, took place in McKendree Church, Nashville, on Thursday afternoon, May 18, 1882, at four o'clock.

The choir sung the hymn, "Am I a soldier of the cross." The first prayer and lesson were read by Bishop McTyeire.

Bishop Kavanaugh preached the sermon—a plain, practical discourse from Titus i. 7-9, on the duties of a Bishop. The consecration services were conducted by Bishops Paine, Pierce, McTyeire, and Keener.

The presence of Bishop Paine, in his extreme feebleness, gave an increased solemnity to this interesting occasion.

Alpheus W. Wilson was presented by John S. Martin and Samuel Rodgers; Linus Parker by C. W. Carter and B. F. Alexander; John C. Granbery by W. W. Bennett and J. E. Edwards; and Robert K. Hargrove by J. B. McFerrin and M. S. Andrews.

Friday Morning, May 19, 1882.

Conference met at the appointed hour, 8:30 A.M., Bishop Kavanaugh in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by I. G. John.

The Minutes of yesterday morning were read and approved.

E. P. Wilson, alternate clerical delegate from the Virginia Conference, appeared, and took his seat in the place of J. C. Granbery, elected and ordained Bishop.

J. A. Parker, alternate clerical delegate from the Louisiana Conference, appeared, and took his seat in the place of Linus Parker, elected and ordained Bishop.

John C. Dice, alternate clerical delegate from the Baltimore Conference, appeared, and took his seat in the place of Alpheus W. Wilson, elected and ordained Bishop.

James Jackson, lay delegate from the North Georgia Conference, appeared, and took his seat.

Leave of absence was granted, as follows: D. B. Warren, of the White River Conference; T. A. S. Adams, of the North Mississippi Conference; Wier Boyd, of the North Georgia Conference; A. H. Quillian, of the Denver Conference; C. P. Crawford, of the North Georgia Conference, whose place was taken by J. S. Stewart, lay alternate.

Reports of standing committees were called for.

P. A. Peterson, Chairman, presented Report No. 10 of the Committee on Revisal, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

The following resolution was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That this General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, hereby expresses it as the sense of this representative body that the American Bible Society ought not to make disproportionately large and liberal grants of Bibles to Churches and denominational associations, for distribution on their own account, that do not coöperate with and contribute to the funds of the Society, to aid it in printing and circulating the Holy Scriptures, "without note or comment," in accordance with the commonly received version.

JOHN E. EDWARDS,

R. N. SLEDD.

D. C. Kelley presented the following paper, which was read and adopted:

Whereas a previous General Conference requested Bishop Wightman to prepare a suitable biography of Bishop Soule; whereas the death of Bishop Wightman has suspended that work, we deem it de-

sirable that this General Conference commit the completion of this work to other competent hands; therefore, be it

Resolved, 1. That it is the sense of this Conference, that Bishop H. N. McTyeire, by many tokens, as well as by the desire of the surviving members of Bishop Soule's family, is the proper person to complete this work.

2. That should Bishop McTyeire find that the material to be obtained at this late day is not sufficient for a book such as he would deem worthy of the character of Bishop Soule, we request him to give the Church, through the *Quarterly Review*, such digest of the materials as he may judge best.

D. C. KELLEY,
R. A. YOUNG,
J. B. McFERRIN.

The following resolution was presented and adopted:

Resolved, That the Book Agent be directed to print in a cheap and convenient form, for the use of candidates for Church-membership, the questions and answers contained in the baptismal service for adults, and in the service for the reception and recognition of Church-members.

P. A. PETERSON,
JOHN E. EDWARDS.

Rev. Dr. Hunt, Secretary of the American Bible Society, addressed the Conference in reference to the work of the Society.

At the close of his remarks, the following resolution was offered, and adopted by a rising vote, viz.:

Resolved, That this General Conference has heard with profound satisfaction the statement of the work of the American Bible Society by Rev. Dr. A. S. Hunt, its efficient Secretary; that we rejoice to see Dr. Hunt in our Conference, and pray that the God of the Bible will cause all grace to abound unto him personally, and to the Society which he so ably represents.

W. H. POTTER,
A. G. HAYGOOD.

By consent, a paper relating to the Young Men's Christian Association, and signed by O. P. Fitzgerald, N. T. Lupton, J. A. Carter, and B. M. Messick, was presented, and referred to the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence.

The committee appointed to make arrangements for the visit to Mrs. Polk, made their report, which was adopted; and after the adjournment of the morning session on Saturday, the members of the Conference called upon Mrs. Polk at her residence.

By consent, J. D. Shaw presented a memorial on boundaries, which was referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

On motion of W. M. Rush, the Conference resumed consideration of the report of the Committee on Church Extension.

The amendment of C. I. Vandeventer to Article V. was withdrawn, and Article V. was adopted.

Article VI. was read, and N. Scarritt offered an amendment, viz.: That Article VI. shall read as follows: "The Board shall have authority to regulate its own proceedings; to determine what amount each Annual Conference shall be asked to raise by collections for the use of the Board during the ensuing year; to appropriate money to pay incidental expenses; to determine what amount may be donated or loaned each applicant; and to do such other business as may be legitimate and proper for them to do. Provided, however, that no money shall be appropriated in the general work of the Society for other purposes than the purchasing or securing of church-lots, and the erection or securing of church-buildings; and provided further, that the Board shall not involve itself in debt."

Pending the discussion of this amendment, Rev. Dr. H. B. Ridgeway, fraternal delegate from the Methodist Episcopal Church, took leave of the Conference in words expressive of his great pleasure in our proceedings, and of strong sympathy and love.

A suitable response was made by Bishop Kavanaugh, and the Conference resumed consideration of the amendment to Article VI., Constitution of the Church Extension Society. The amendment was adopted.

On motion, the Article, as amended, was adopted.

Article VII. was read, and on motion of H. F. Johnson amended, and as amended, adopted.

Article VIII. was adopted.

Article IX. was amended, on motion of F. Richardson, and as thus amended, adopted.

J. S. Gardner was placed on the Committee on Episcopacy, instead of A. W. Wilson, elected and ordained Bishop; and John C. Dice was placed on the Committee on Missions, instead of Samuel Rodgers.

The Conference adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Pierce.

Saturday Morning, May 20, 1882.

Conference met at the appointed hour, 8:30 A.M., Bishop Kavanaugh in the chair. Divine service was conducted by H. J. Adams.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

W. H. Foster presented an invitation from the Trustees of the Seashore Camp-ground, to the Bishops and members of the General Conference, to attend the meeting of 1882.

Reports of standing committees were called for.

W. W. Bennett, Chairman, presented Report No. 8 of the Committee on Episcopacy, which was read and adopted, viz.:

COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, REPORT NO. 8.

The Committee on Episcopacy has examined into the official character and administration of the following General Superintendents of the Church, to wit: Robert Paine, George F. Pierce, Holland N. McTyeire, Hubbard H. Kavanaugh, and John C. Keener, and report approved.

Respectfully submitted.

W. W. BENNETT, Chairman.

S. Rodgers, Chairman, presented Report No. 9 of the Committee on Itinerancy, which was read.

On motion of J. E. Edwards, the item referring to the roll-call in the East Texas Conference Journal was stricken out.

On motion of J. E. Evans, the item relating to the case of J. E. W. was stricken out.

The report, thus amended, was adopted, viz.:

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, REPORT NO. 9.

East Texas Conference Journal.—Page 4, G. C. S. was passed and discontinued, but there is no record of the question.

J. W. O. located under question 17.

Under question 4, parties are elected to deacon's orders, without record of the question.

The Journal announces in many places, "Conference adjourned, with the benediction"—does not say by whom.

Page 8. A location was granted to B. A. T., under question 20.

Page 13. Conference met, R. S. F. in the chair, but it is not stated by what authority he is there.

Report of Committee on Memoirs adopted, but question 19 not answered.

Pages 29 and 31. The signature of the Bishop to the Minutes of session, 1878, is placed at the bottom of the Journal, two pages before the adjournment and from the place where the Secretary signs.

Page 36. H. C. H. was discontinued without record of the question.

Parties are elected deacons under question 4.

Page 38. J. B. H. was examined and continued in class of fourth year, under question 20; also, H. B. H. granted a supernumerary relation.

Page 40. This item occurs: "The Bishop called before the Conference

the class to be admitted into full connection, and, after examination, they were admitted," but no names are given. Same error on page 83.

The statistics of this Conference, in each of the four years, are placed right in the midst of the Conference proceedings—sometimes in the middle of a question.

Page 42. Questions 27 and 28 not written out.

Page 64. T. H. S. elected deacon under question 2; others under question 4. So on page 102.

Page 80. Question 20 is resumed; not written out.

Page 82. Under question 20, supernumerary and superannuated relations granted to several parties. So on pages 115 and 118.

Page 101. Transfers announced, but no question recorded.

Page 114. In the election of delegates to the General Conference no record of the number of members of Conference, nor of the votes that each delegate received.

Page 120. A supernumerary relation granted to D. M.; no record of question.

North Texas Conference Journal.—This Journal is marred by blots, and the record made is so crowded that it is often difficult to determine where one item of business begins and another ends. We note the following as among the most serious errors and omissions:

In nearly every case the Secretary has failed to mention the fact of an approved examination before the committee. This omission is more frequent in sessions of 1879–80.

Under question 14, local preachers are elected to elder's orders without presenting certificate. (See pages 229.) On the same page, J. J. M., of the M. E. Church, recognized as a deacon without taking our ordination vows.

Page 230. Question 10 not written out.

Under question 14, the election and ordination of local elders is recorded.

Question 8 is answered by reference to question 9.

Minutes of 1878 not signed by the Secretary.

Minutes of 1879, page 254, question 27 not written out.

Page 255. "Statistical report read and adopted." No further reference is made to it, and nowhere in the Journal is a report of any kind recorded. Frequent reference is made to an appendix, but it appears nowhere in the Journal, and the only hint of its whereabouts is found on page 234, in this entry: "See appendix, too large to record, filed—252."

Minutes of this session signed by the Bishop with lead pencil.

Minutes of 1880. J. H. McL. appointed to bear our Christian salutations to the Austin Conference. No record made of what Church.

Minutes of 1881—page 284. Under question 8, parties elected deacons, and admitted into full connection. Page 286. In recording election of delegates to General Conference, the instructions of the last General Conference to Secretaries not carried out; but as these instructions were not generally circulated among the Secretaries, this Secretary cannot be held responsible for the omission, unless it can be shown that he received such instructions.

Pages 291, 293, 294, 302. Questions 20, 9, 11, 13, 15, 31, not written out.

There are several minor errors not mentioned, to which the attention of the Secretary is called, that they may be avoided hereafter, such as mistakes in spelling, omission of words, obscurity of style, and the record of items that do not properly belong to the business of an Annual Conference, thus cumbering the Journal unnecessarily.

From an examination of this Journal, we find that the frequent change of Secretaries operates against an accurate record of the proceedings, and urge the continuance of the same Secretary wherever practicable.

SAMUEL RODGERS, Chairman.

Bishop Wilson took the chair, and presented a telegram from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, now in session at Springfield, Illinois, viz.:

To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Nashville, Tenn.

BRETHREN:—We hail you with Christian joy, and bid you God-speed. In behalf of the General Assembly, sitting at Springfield, Ill.

HERRICK JOHNSON.

Springfield, Ill., May 19, 1882.

On motion, the telegram was referred to the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence.

R. W. Jones, of the Mississippi Conference, was granted leave of absence.

R. T. Haley, alternate lay delegate from the Louisville Conference took his seat in the place of W. E. Parrish.

The call for reports of standing committees was resumed.

W. W. Walker, Chairman, presented Report No. 6 of the Committee on Publishing Interests, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS, REPORT NO. 6.

With respect to the Spanish publications submitted to us from Dr. W. M. Patterson, Superintendent of the Mexican Mission, not being

able to read them, we can only say that it is eminently proper that the effort should be made to reach the people of Mexico through the press, and, for aught that we know, the books and papers submitted to us have been wisely and well prepared, and are likely to help the missionary work in that field. We certainly hope and, from the best information we can obtain and the representations of Dr. Patterson, venture to believe so.

Respectfully submitted.

W. W. WALKER, Chairman.

W. W. Walker, Chairman, presented Report No. 7 of the Committee on Publishing Interests, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS, REPORT NO. 7.

Having considered the petition of A. H. Redford, asking the General Conference to relieve him from the payment of certain items included in the amount found to be due by him to the Publishing House, we report, that it appearing to us from the facts that the settlement with Dr. Redford is the result of a compromise of controverted claims, and that we should be under the necessity of reöpening the matters in dispute in order to be able thoroughly to investigate the whole subject, we are of the opinion that the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted, and so recommend.

W. W. WALKER, Chairman.

W. W. Walker, Chairman, presented Report No. 8 of the Committee on Publishing Interests, which was read.

On motion of S. B. Watts, the item in the report proposing to strike out paragraph 3, Section III., page 351 of the Discipline, was stricken out, and the report, so amended, was adopted, viz.:

COMMITTEE ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS, REPORT NO. 8.

With the view of ascertaining with absolute certainty, if possible, the exact condition of all the departments of the Publishing House, the general committee appointed five sub-committees, and imposed upon them the task of investigating the business of the *Christian Advocate*, of the Sunday-school publications, of the manufacturing departments, of the sales department, the method of keeping the books, and the value of the assets. These various committees performed their work faithfully, and as well as it could be done under the circumstances. Their examination has resulted in establishing the fact that the Report of the Book Agent and Book Committee is substantially correct. Possibly the real estate of the Publishing House, while worth, for the purposes for which it is used, the sum of \$125,000, would not bring, if exposed to sale, more than \$100,000, and the estimate of assets should probably be abated to that extent.

The committee desired to ascertain and report the exact condition of each separate department; but that could not be done, as the books have not been kept so as to show the expenses and profits of the several branches of the House. We have, however, satisfied ourselves that the *Advocate*, the Sunday-school publications, the manufacturing and sales departments, are each sources of profit, and, as before stated, the general result, as ascertained by us, is substantially the same as that reported by the Book Agent and Book Committee. In this connection we recommend that the Agent be instructed to separate, as far as practicable, the transactions in the different departments, so as to present hereafter a clear exhibit of the profit or loss in each.

We feel justified in saying that if the wise and prudent management of the past four years is continued the House will, in all probability, soon be relieved of all financial embarrassment, and become, as was contemplated in its organization, a powerful auxiliary in the dissemination of sound doctrines, and in the spread of scriptural holiness over all these lands.

We hope the report of the Book Agent and Book Committee will be read and considered, and that our people, now assured that the Publishing House will stand as one of our Church institutions, will rally to its support, and sustain it by a liberal patronage. In this connection we report that we approve the settlement made by our present Book Agent and Book Committee with the former Book Agent, and are satisfied with the results attained. We also approve of the action of the Book Agent and Book Committee in reducing the price of the subscription to the *Christian Advocate*; but, while deferring greatly to the views of our Book Committee and Agent, we advise against any further reduction at the present time. The *Advocate* and the Sunday-school publications—in fact, all the various departments of our publishing interests, are conducted with profit; but, with a membership of eight hundred thousand, it seems to us that the subscription-lists of our *Advocate* and of our Sunday-school publications should be four or five times their present numbers. Cannot this increase be had? Every one will admit how desirable it is that our publications should be placed in the reach of all, that they should be put in every home in the Southern Methodist Church to exert their proper influence in forming character and giving shape and tone to the thoughts and opinions of our people. We therefore recommend to the several Annual Conferences of our Church the advisability of adopting some system of colportage by which this desirable object may be attained; provided, however, that no expense or liability shall be incurred by the

Publishing House. With respect to the House and its management, we submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That we gratefully recognize the guiding hand of Providence in the action of the last General Conference, and in the wise and prudent management which has resulted in relieving the embarrassment of the Publishing House, and in placing it in a condition which justifies the hope that, with a few years of like administration, it will be relieved from debt and realize the expectation of the Church.

2. That we approve the action and conduct of the Book Agent, the Book Committee, and the Business Manager, in the adjustment and management of the business affairs and business operations of the House since they acquired possession and control of the same, and tender to them the sincere and profound thanks of this body and of the Church at large for the faithfulness, wisdom, and efficiency with which they have discharged the delicate, responsible, and onerous trusts and duties imposed upon them by the action of the General Conference at its last session.

3. That we heartily recommend the books, periodicals, and other publications of the House, to the most favorable consideration of the entire membership, clerical and lay, of our beloved Church, and urge them to unite with the Agent, Committee, and Manager of the House, in doing all that can be done to sustain and enlarge the useful and effective operations of the establishment in all the fields of our labor and work.

With respect to the *Christian Advocate*, we submit the following resolution for the approval of the General Conference:

Resolved, That we heartily indorse the able and faithful management of the paper, as conducted by Dr. O. P. Fitzgerald, and commend it as eminently worthy of the confidence and patronage of our people.

In examining the rules adopted at the last General Conference for the management of the Publishing House, as printed in the appendix to the Discipline, we find that the changed condition of the House makes it proper that there should be certain changes in those rules. We therefore recommend the following changes:

1. Strike out paragraph 5 of Article III.

2. Amend paragraph 6, page 352, same Article, so as to read as follows: "To provide for the retirement or extension of the bonds of the House, as may be necessary and practicable, and to settle the remaining indebtedness, if any, as they may deem just and equitable."

3. Strike out paragraph 7, pages 352, 353, of same Article.

4. In paragraph 10, page 354, of same Article, strike out "first Wednesday in May," and insert "first Wednesday in April."

5. Strike out the whole of Article IV., page 354, entitled "Depository."

6. Strike out in Article V., page 354, the word "other," and change "Depositories" to "Depository."

7. Amend Article VI., page 355, commencing with the ninth line from the bottom, so as to make it read as follows: "It is provided that if, in the judgment of the Book Committee and the General Agent, assistance is necessary to the Editors elected by the General Conference, they, said Book Committee and General Agent, in the interval of the General Conference, shall have authority to provide and pay for such assistance, having due regard to economy and the ability of the House to sustain the increased expense."

8. Amend Article IX.—entitled "Liabilities"—by striking out all after the words "Publishing House," in the third line.

We recommend that these rules, so amended, shall be the rules for the government of the House.

We do not consider the matter of the Sunday-school publications properly before our committee, but, supposing that the Sunday-school Committee will give due attention to them, we make no recommendation concerning them in our report.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. W. WALKER, Chairman.

S. H. DENT, Secretary.

G. R. Browder, Chairman, presented Report No. 5 of the Committee on Boundaries, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

L. M. Wilson presented a minority report to accompany the report of the committee, which also lies on the table, under the rule.

G. R. Browder, Chairman, presented Report No. 6 of the Committee on Boundaries, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES, REPORT NO. 6.

Your Committee on Boundaries have considered the resolution referred to them signed by J. M. McTeer and T. P. Summers, in reference to change of boundary between the Baltimore and Holston Conferences, and recommend the following changes in said boundary line, to wit: In the description of the Holston Conference line, insert the words, "Auburn, in Montgomery county, Va.," for the words "the territory known as the New Hope Circuit;" and in order to conform the Baltimore Conference line to that of Holston, recommend the following reading in said boundary, to wit: "From the top of said mountain

with the Holston line to Central Depot on New River, instead of Pepper's Ferry, as now stated," G. R. BROWDER, Chairman.

On motion of D. C. Kelley, the rules were suspended, and Report No. 5 of the Committee on Missions was taken up.

Items 1 and 2 were read and adopted.

Item 3 was read, and, after some remarks by Bishop Keener,

W. M. Rush moved to amend by adding the words "with the advice and consent of the Bishops and Superintendent of the Mission-field."

P. A. Peterson moved to lay the Article on the table, which motion did not prevail.

J. B. McGehee moved to strike out item 3 of the report, and the motion prevailed.

Item 4 was adopted.

James E. Evans moved that when we adjourn we adjourn to meet at 3 o'clock P.M. The motion did not prevail.

Report No. 5 of the Committee on Missions was resumed, and item 5 was adopted.

Items 6, 7, and 8 were adopted.

Item 9 was laid on the table.

On motion of H. F. Johnson, the time of the session was prolonged indefinitely.

The report, as amended, was adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, REPORT NO. 5.

Your committee have had under careful consideration the paper signed C. E. Dowman and F. Pasco, "providing for the assignment of a Bishop or Bishops to Missionary Districts, and limiting their Episcopal jurisdiction to the same." We recommend non-concurrence.

Two papers, one a memorial from the Board of Missions, the other a resolution signed W. H. Potter, asking certain changes in the Discipline with regard to the Board, have been patiently considered, and we unanimously recommend the following changes:

Page 180, Article III. After the word "care," insert "to aid in the establishment and support of training-schools for native converts and preachers, and to coöperate with other Methodist bodies in the establishment and support of such schools wherever it may be practicable in foreign fields."

Page 201. Strike out the words "missionary work," and insert at the end of the Section the words, "All bequests or devises made to our missionary work of the Church should be made to the Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South—a corporation duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Tennessee."

Page 180, Article III. After the words "to build houses for worship," insert the words "for hospitals."

Page 182, Article VI. After the words "by the Church and congregation," insert "by the Sunday-school, and by such Societies as may be formed by the women of the Church."

Page 182, Article VIII. Add at close of Article, "and such other labor as the Board shall direct. The salary of the Treasurer shall be fixed by the Board."

Page 184, Article XIII. After the words "Conference Board," insert "shall arrange for holding anniversary-meetings within the several Presiding Elders' Districts of the Conference in the interest of Foreign Missions, and by such other means as it may choose," so that Article XIII. will read: "The Conference Board shall arrange for holding anniversary-meetings within the several Presiding Elders' Districts of the Conference in the interests of Foreign Missions, and by such other means as it may choose; shall disseminate missionary intelligence among the people; hold an anniversary-meeting at each session of the Conference, the proceeds of which shall be equally divided between the General Board and the Annual Conference Board," etc.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

J. E. Edwards moved that the election of General Conference officers be made the order for 3 o'clock P.M. on Monday next.

W. M. Rush moved to substitute Tuesday next, at 11 o'clock A.M., which motion did not prevail.

The motion of J. E. Edwards was then adopted.

J. H. H. Figgatt was granted leave of absence.

A communication was received from the President of the Fisk University, inviting the Conference to visit that institution during the Commencement Exercises. The invitation was accepted.

Bishop McTyeire presented, in behalf of the College of Bishops, a recommendation that the Indiana Conference be united with the Louisville Conference.

On motion of J. E. Edwards, the rules were suspended, and the paper referred to the Committee on Boundaries.

Conference adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Keener.

Monday Morning, May 22, 1882.

The Conference met at 8:30 A.M., Bishop Keener in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by E. R. Hendrix.

The Minutes of Saturday were read and approved.

W. P. Barton, alternate, appeared, and took his seat in the place

of T. A. S. Adams, clerical delegate from North Mississippi Conference.

J. L. Parks, alternate, took the place of G. G. Dibrell, lay delegate from the Tennessee Conference.

Bishop Parker took the chair.

Reports of standing committees being in order, P. A. Peterson moved that the call be continued from the point where it was left off in Saturday's session, and the motion prevailed.

P. A. Peterson, Chairman, presented Report No. 11 of the Committee on Revisal, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

P. A. Peterson, Chairman, presented Report No. 12 of the Committee on Revisal, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, REPORT NO. 12.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to report as follows:

They have duly considered a communication addressed by the Secretary of the American Colonization Society to Bishop McTyeire, but designed for this body, in which is expressed the desire that this General Conference will invest the Bishops with authority to appoint our traveling preachers to agencies for the Society.

Your committee believe that there are in our Church others than effective traveling preachers, well qualified for such a work, and whose services may be secured, and therefore respectfully decline to recommend that our Bishops be empowered to make such appointments from the ranks of the traveling ministry.

P. A. PETERSON, Chairman.

H. V. PHILPOTT, Secretary.

P. A. Peterson, Chairman, presented Reports Nos. 13 and 14 of the Committee on Revisal, which were read, and both reports lie on the table, under the rule.

W. P. Harrison, Chairman, presented Report No. 4 of the Committee on Education, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, REPORT NO. 4.

The committee have not been able to obtain full reports from our institutions of learning. The absence of a clearly defined method of procuring and transmitting these statistics is the cause of our failure in this regard. Hereafter, we trust, there will be no ground for this complaint, as the action of this body has introduced the question relating to educational statistics into the Minute business of the Annual Conference. The *data* furnished to us will be found in the tabular statement annexed to this report. (See tabular statement.)

With profound interest and sympathy we have heard the appeal of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America. Earnestly desiring to render them any service in our power, by helping them to establish training-schools for pastors and teachers of their own race, we have recommended, and the General Conference has adopted, a measure which we believe will accomplish, to some extent at least, the desired end. A needy people, who deserve at our hands the kindest consideration, will not make their appeal in vain. We commend their cause to those stewards of the Lord's bounty who have in trust the earthly riches, devoutly praying the divine blessing upon those who give, and upon those who receive.

The experiment of establishing high schools under the control of the District Conferences has been a partial success. Wherever these schools have confined themselves to their legitimate sphere of secondary or intermediate education, they have been useful in a large degree. There are, however, in some of these schools, tendencies which have greatly interfered with their permanent prosperity. By attempting to do the work of the college, the high school has entered into competition with institutions of higher grade. In order to self-protection, the college has been compelled to maintain the preparatory school. Thus a rivalry is engendered, and evil, if not fatal, results attend the unnatural strife. Everywhere our colleges complain of the lack of preparation on the part of students applying for admission into college classes. This lack of preparation subjects both the student and the teacher to difficulties that are seldom overcome. It is impossible for the college professor to do efficient work in the advancement of a pupil in whose mind a broad and ample foundation has not been laid by the preparatory school. There should be absolute harmony in the work of the high school and the college, for each creates the necessity for the other. We are persuaded that the highest interests of these institutions demand a faithful adherence to the natural order which makes them co-workers in the cause of human progress.

We are confident that the Church, if she abandon to the State the work of higher education, can never be true to herself. A system of primary schools has been generally adopted throughout the country, and maintained by a tax upon the property of all classes of citizens. With this system we have neither the power nor the disposition to interfere. There is, however, imminent danger that these schools, whilst endeavoring to avoid the semblance of sectarianism, may pass to the other extreme, and recognize no code of morals founded upon religious principle. The last resort that remains to the friends of

Christian education is the work of the high school, the college, and the university. From these we cannot consent to eliminate the positive influences of the Christian religion. The Bible must not be excluded, nor must it be denied a place as a text-book in the school that is forming the moral as well as the intellectual habits of the youth of our land. We emphasize the demand that the instructors of our youth should themselves furnish examples of genuine piety.

In this connection we desire to call attention to an evil that we fear is increasing among us. We know not how the impression has become prevalent, but we are persuaded that many of our people believe that Roman Catholic schools are superior to Protestant schools of the same grade. For this reason, we suppose, some Methodist parents have sent their daughters to Roman Catholic schools. The result, in almost all cases, has been that these daughters have abandoned the Church of their fathers. A barrier has been erected between parent and child, and a life-time of sorrow has been the consequence of a grievous error of judgment. We speak the truth when we affirm that Roman Catholic schools are in no particular better than our own. That the child of a Protestant will be the subject of abundant courtesy and singular kindness in a Romanist school is very true, and the reason lies upon the surface. With consummate skill the methods of proselytism are concealed from both parent and child. This is one of the cases in which it is "the highest art to conceal the art." Profound respect for the young Protestant's religion is exhibited, whilst no word or sign indicates a desire to shake the foundation of her faith. With gentleness and love, with untiring care and devotion, the young pupil is followed to the day of her departure, and never knows how strong the silken cords have been woven until she enters once more the atmosphere of home. There, or elsewhere in society, whenever she meets an unfavorable criticism upon Romanism, her sense of gratitude rallies to the defense of a religion whose exponents have scrupulously respected and honored her conscience and her faith. The end will come, and the heart that has been won in the convent will bow, ere long, in the confessional.

The growing importance of Foreign Missions, and the desire for the largest success in conducting them, suggest the propriety of adopting some method by which persons who may be inclined to missionary labor may be duly qualified for that arduous and difficult task. In furtherance of this design, it is recommended that our institutions of learning establish, whenever practicable, a lectureship of Christian Missions.

Whilst some of our institutions have been struggling for existence, and many teachers have had their patience and self-denial taxed to the utmost, it affords us great pleasure to record a signal instance of liberal donations to the cause of education in the South. Next to the munificent gifts which founded Vanderbilt University, we place the generous donation of more than \$225,000 by Mr. George I. Seney, of New York, to literary institutions in the State of Georgia. Already the seed has been sown in fruitful ground: it is springing up, and promises a harvest that will gladden the hearts of all who love the cause of Christian education.

Respectfully submitted.

W. P. HARRISON, Chairman.

W. F. Cook, Secretary.

A. M. Shipp, Chairman, presented Report No. 5 of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE, REPORT NO. 5.

The Committee on Fraternal Correspondence recommend that the following telegram be sent in response to the one received, and signed Herrick Johnson, viz.:

To the Presbyterian General Assembly in session at Springfield, Ill.

BRETHREN:—The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, reciprocate in joy and love your Christian salutations. Heb. xiii. 20, 21.

A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

A. M. Shipp, Chairman, presented Report No. 6 of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE, REPORT NO. 6.

The Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, to whom was referred the communication in behalf of the Young Men's Christian Association, offer for adoption the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That this Conference recognizes the Young Men's Christian Association as an organization worthy of cordial sympathy and hearty encouragement, and, in the special work it has undertaken of watching over and protecting the large number of young men in our towns and cities exposed to the peculiar temptations and dangers of this age, will ever pray that the blessing of God may rest on said organization, and give it good success.

A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

H. F. Johnson, Chairman, presented Report No. 1 of the Committee on Bible Cause, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON BIBLE CAUSE, REPORT NO. 1.

Your committee has had under consideration the resolution signed

by A. H. Sutherland and M. N. Shive, in reference to the headings of the chapters in the Spanish version of the Scriptures as published by the American Bible Society. Brother Sutherland appeared before the committee, and after a free conversation on the subject, it was agreed that the best course would be for Brother Sutherland to correspond with the Committee on Versions of the Bible Society, which he said he would do.

Your committee recommend that no further action be taken.

Respectfully submitted.

H. F. JOHNSON, Chairman.

H. F. Johnson, Chairman, presented Report No. 2 of the Committee on Bible Cause, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

B. Craven, Secretary, presented Report No. 4 of the Committee on Appeals, which was read, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON APPEALS, REPORT NO. 4.

T. C. Parrish, elder, of the North Mississippi Conference, suspended. Decision of the North Mississippi Conference reversed.

J. C. KEENER, President.

B. CRAVEN, Secretary.

W. W. Bennett, Chairman, presented Report No. 9 of the Committee on Episcopacy, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, REPORT NO. 9.

The committee has considered a paper signed by John E. Edwards and Richard Irby, and referred by the Conference, and report in answer to the special questions asked therein—

1. The amount of money assessed during the four years past, for the support of Bishops, is \$95,300.

2. In answer to the second question, "What amount has been paid on assessments by the Annual Conferences respectively?" we report that special pains were taken to ascertain the fact, and for this purpose the committee made inquiry of Mr. L. D. Palmer, who, by request of the Bishops, held the receipts, and annually equalized the settlement of this fund between the claimants, though in no wise the treasurer of it; and as the best answer we can give, incorporate in this report the following extract from his answer to the committee:

"Referring to the request of the Committee on Episcopacy for an itemized statement showing amounts paid by each Annual Conference to Bishops' Fund, I beg respectfully to say that on examination of the papers which have come into my hands I find it impossible to make up any statement which would be accurate or satisfactory. I have all

the papers on hand which have been sent me, and they are at your disposal. From most of the Conferences the reports have been full, but from several of them no settlements have been received. Owing to this cause, and to the absence of several of the Bishops from the annual meetings, and the death of two of them, the detailed statements are incomplete. You will permit me to say there is no way to keep this account accurately or fully unless the Bishops and others interested in the Episcopal fund will send duplicate receipts to Nashville of every payment received by them, giving the name of the Conference, or otherwise constitute a treasurer to whom all payments shall be made. I have prepared and furnished each Bishop with a duplicate receipt-book, which, if regularly used, will furnish complete and accurate reports of this account."

The committee is of the opinion that a strict compliance by all the Boards of Finance of the Annual Conferences with the requirements of the Discipline, page 172, Section III., paragraph 3, that the chairman of said Boards shall pay the amounts collected on the Bishops' Fund to the Bishops presiding at the Conferences respectively, and take their receipts and forward the same, or a copy thereof, to the Book Agent; and that a like compliance on the part of the Bishops with the requirements on page 173, Section III., paragraph 4, that each of them shall report to the Book Agent at the annual meeting of the Bishops the amount paid him by the several Annual Conferences, will in the future obviate all difficulty as to the adjustment of the accounts of this fund.

3. In answer to question 3, as to the aggregate amount received and placed to the credit of the Bishops' Fund, the Committee report as follows:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Total collections reported May, 1879..... | \$21,589 88 |
| Total collections reported May, 1880..... | 22,179 97 |
| Total collections reported May, 1881..... | 21,707 60 |
| Total collections reported May, 1882..... | 23,295 01 |
| Total collections..... | —\$88,772 46 |
| Full salary Bishop Paine 4 years..... | \$12,000 00 |
| Full salary Bishop Pierce 4 years..... | 12,000 00 |
| Full salary Bishop Kavanaugh 4 years.... | 12,000 00 |
| Full salary Bishop McTyeire 4 years..... | 12,000 00 |
| Full salary Bishop Keener 4 years..... | 12,000 00 |
| Full salary Bishop Wightman 4 years..... | 12,000 00 |
| Full salary Bishop Doggett 2½ years..... | 7,500 00 |
| Full salary Mrs. Doggett 1½ years..... | 2,250 00 |

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Full salary Mrs. Marvin 4 years..... | \$6,000 00 |
| Total paid..... | —\$87,750 00 |
| Balance to credit of Bishops' Fund after full settlement for 4 years..... | \$1,022 46 |

This balance is understood to be in the hands of the Bishops.

Respectfully submitted. W. W. BENNETT, Chairman.

S. Rodgers, Chairman, presented Report No. 10 of the Committee on Itinerancy, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, REPORT NO. 10.

Baltimore Conference Journal.—We notice the following inaccuracies and errors:

On page 258 this record occurs, "The question of fixing the relation of E. R. S. was called."

Page 330. An investigating committee report a trial necessary in the case of W. R. McN., on the charge of immorality. A trial committee is appointed, and on page 339 the committee report that they find him guilty as charged, and expel him from the Church. Nowhere does it appear what the immorality is, nor are any specifications given.

On page 375 this item occurs: "In accordance with the consent of Conference, the examination of character was conducted with open doors." The Discipline provides that the doors shall be open, unless closed by a vote of Conference.

Page 382. In the report of ordinations, the proper questions are asked only in the margin, and question 15, relating to ordination of local elders, not asked at all. Precisely the same thing occurs in the Journal of the succeeding session of Conference, on page 430.

Florida Conference Journal.—This Journal is very neatly kept, and in the main is very free from errors. We notice the following matters that may be remedied in future, viz.: Page 197, C. A. S. was elected to deacon's orders under question 7. Page 195, H. L. P. was elected to elder's orders, with the proviso that he pass an examination in Mosheim's Church History next year. Page 195, O. W. R. was placed in the list of supernumeraries—no question asked. Page 252, under question 20, persons are granted supernumerary relations and are located. Page 256, W. G. R. made supernumerary without asking the question. Page 259, L. A. C. located under question 20. Page 261, questions 27 and 28 entered numerically in the margin, but the words of the questions are not recorded. Page 261, W. L. A. discontinued—no question asked. Page 308, question 17, Who are supernumerary? Under it one was granted a location, another announced as having

died, and another left on the effective list. Page 310, class received into full connection, no record of question. Page 312, election of delegates to the General Conference—Journal does not give the number of members, but only says, "By the announcement of the Bishop that the Conference was entitled to two clerical and two lay members." Page 320, the ordinations are reported, but no record of question. Page 319, fifth day's proceedings contain no mention of the approval of the Minutes of the preceding session.

It is the usage in this Journal after a question has been called once, and it is resumed, not to record it, even though several days may have intervened.

The margin is only used for the regular disciplinary questions, and not as index to all the proceedings.

Louisville Conference Journal.—After a careful examination of this Journal, we regret to report much to criticise. The marginal references are often not sufficiently explicit, and illegibly written. The number of the session is not written at the top of the page through the index, nor is there any thing in these headings to indicate the date. There are occasional misspelled words, and the construction and arrangement of sentences are frequently defective. Pages 524 and 525 are entirely blank, though the record of the proceedings of the thirty-third session begins on page 523. On this page also R. F. Hayes and J. D. Sigler are received by transfer without raising question 6. A similar error occurs on page 533. Reference is frequently made by the Secretary, "see appendix," without giving the page. On page 540 John M. Crow and others were admitted on trial without any mention as from whence they came. On page 546 the report on statistics was received and adopted, but no mention as to where it could be found. On page 584 — was continued in a supernumerary relation without calling question 17. On page 587 A. H. Redford and others were continued in a supernumerary relation, Wm. Alexander was granted a superannuated relation, and W. B. Crichlow was located, all under question 20. On page 590 W. C. Slate was continued in supernumerary relation without raising question 17. On page 659 a superannuated relation was granted without raising question 18. On same page Wm. H. Archer was admitted on trial, but no mention as from whence he came. On page 704 the Conference proceeded to the election of delegates to the General Conference, without reconsidering the vote by which they had determined to elect them on Monday following.

Much of the matter of the appendix of the thirty-sixth session, and a part of the thirty-fifth, is printed and pasted in.

The omission of words which sometimes seriously affect the sense, erasures and re-insertions, interlineations, blots and blurs, which mar the beauty and cleanliness of the Journal, are so very frequent—one or more of these defects occurring on almost every page—that your committee has not thought it necessary to mention the particular pages.

Los Angeles Conference Journal.—There is so much to commend in this Journal that we are not disposed to dwell upon minor errors. Some points, however, should be noted, that the Journal in the future may be still better than it now is.

It would be better if the name of the Conference appeared in the running-head, as well as the number and day of the session. And it would be also an improvement if the *number* of the questions called were in the margin instead of in the body of the page.

Frequently the questions are not asked at all or not written, but a preacher is located or superannuated with only the *relation* or nature of action written in margin. Sometimes the word "*resumed*" is used in connection with a number, but the question so *indicated* is not written. The roll is called, but the names of those present never given. Once all were present except C. W. Harris. Once seventeen members were present—no names given. The roll of lay delegates is called, but no statement whether any were present or not. Once twenty-one were present—no names given. Once all present except three clerical and six lay delegates. In the appendix, however, the Secretary gives the roll at the close of Conference session.

Page 152 states the adjournment *sine die* of the Conference, and afterward the Secretary states various questions by numbers, and tells how they were answered—they not appearing in the Journal. This in a foot-note. In one case, in the absence of the Bishop, a brother is "*authorized*" to take the chair—no statement as to whether he was appointed by the Bishop or "*authorized*" by election. Page 210 states that under question 12 a brother is called, and complaints are alleged, when, after some discussion, a motion is made to locate him, on the ground of "*unacceptability*," which the Bishop decides to be illegal. Page 215 states that certain brethren were elected as delegates and alternates to General Conference; the number of members, number of delegates to which the Conference was entitled, the number of votes cast, number necessary to a choice, number of ballots—all of these items are omitted; nor were the delegates declared elected, except by the Secretary. Page 217 states that a previous action of Conference is "*changed*." This would not be done without a reconsideration, which is not stated.

In many cases motions are made and withdrawn, and various actions proposed, which amount to nothing, and with which it seems to us unnecessary to cumber the record. A Journal should show all the "*doings*" of a Conference, but not necessarily all that is proposed.

SAMUEL RODGERS, Chairman.

G. R. Browder, Chairman, presented Report No. 7 of the Committee on Boundaries, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

G. R. Browder, Chairman, presented Report No. 8 of the Committee on Boundaries, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES, REPORT NO. 8.

Your Committee on Boundaries would respectfully represent that they have considered the resolution from the College of Bishops, recommending that Indiana Conference be united with the Louisville Conference, and concur in the same, and recommend that the boundaries of the Louisville Conference be enlarged, so that, in addition to its present boundaries, there shall be included all that part of the State of Indiana not now embraced in the Louisville Conference.

G. R. BROWDER, Chairman.

B. D. ORGAIN, Secretary.

L. M. Wilson, from the Committee on Boundaries, presented a minority report to accompany Report No. 5 of the Committee on Boundaries. The minority report lies on the table, under the rule.

D. C. Kelley, Chairman, presented Report No. 8 of the Committee on Missions, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, REPORT NO. 8.

Your committee beg leave to report that having considered the paper signed James S. Kennedy and J. W. Paulett, having reference to "incorporation into the Discipline, in the Chapter on Missions, of a Section clearly defining the relations of the Superintendents of Foreign Mission stations," we are of the opinion that such legislation is not practicable at the present.

On the paper signed James Whitworth and Jordan Stokes, referring to Episcopal visitation of our Foreign Mission fields, we would report the following resolution:

Resolved, That we recommend that some one of our Bishops do visit, as often as they may find practicable, our Foreign Mission fields during the next *quadrennium*.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

D. C. Kelley, Chairman, presented Report No. 9 of the Committee on Missions, which was read, and laid on the table.

Bishop McTyeire announced the following Nominating Committee, who are to nominate the members of the Book Committee, viz.: W. W. Walker, S. H. Dent, W. B. Wood, H. H. Parks, S. B. Jones, Jordan Stokes, J. W. Gaut, George Thornburg, W. C. Ireland.

The Secretary read an invitation to the Conference from the authorities of Vanderbilt University to visit that institution.

W. W. Walker, Chairman, moved to reconsider the vote by which the Conference had adopted Report No. 8 of the Committee on Publishing Interests. The motion prevailed.

W. W. Walker moved to amend the report by leaving paragraph 10, page 354, as it was, and, on page 349, line 10 from the top, insert "April" instead of "June," and strike out "one month following."

The report was amended accordingly, and adopted.

Leave of absence was granted to M. C. Baldridge, of the North Alabama Conference.

The report of the Committee on Church Extension was taken up.

N. Scarritt moved to reconsider the vote by which Article IX. was adopted, and the motion did not prevail.

Article X. was read and adopted.

On motion of W. M. Rush, the Conference proceeded to fill the blank in Article IV., locating the Society. The following places were nominated: Little Rock, Kansas City, Louisville, St. Joseph, Memphis, Nashville, Sacramento, Dallas, Springfield, Ill., Atlanta, Richmond, St. Louis.

The vote resulted as follows: Little Rock, 15; Kansas City, 24; Louisville, 46; St. Joseph, 2; Memphis, 7; Nashville, 8; Sacramento, 3; Dallas, 7; Springfield, Ill., 2; Atlanta, 27; Richmond 3; St. Louis, 24; total, 168.

No place having received a majority, the vote was taken the second time, and resulted as follows: Little Rock, 11; Kansas City, 26; Louisville, 89—other places withdrawn.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, the vote for Louisville was made unanimous.

The blank in Article II. was filled with the word "Kentucky," and the time of meeting was left to the decision of the Board.

J. B. McGehee offered the following, as a substitute for the whole report:

Whereas it is the sense of this Conference that Church Extension Societies should be established throughout the Connection; and whereas it is believed that an enterprise so important and untried should receive thoughtful consideration and proper trial before it is allowed to assume any elaborate and permanent organization; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That our Church editors, pastors, and Presiding Elders, are hereby required to bring the matter before their respective audiences.

2. That our Bishops are respectfully instructed to present the same to each Annual Conference, use their influence to have the various Conferences organize a Society, on the basis of allowing the respective Conferences to retain fifty per cent. of the amounts collected, for building churches in their own bounds. The balance to be forwarded to the Secretary and Board of Missions, and applied to the aid of such communities as in their judgment are in greatest need of help.

3. That the question of a Central Board is hereby referred to the General Conference of 1886.

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| J. B. McGEHEE, | H. W. FOOTE, |
| J. W. FITCH, | THEO. TURNBULL, |
| T. L. BOSWELL, | T. T. CHRISTIAN, |
| ANSON WEST, | H. J. ADAMS. |

The substitute of J. B. McGehee was laid on the table—ayes, 123; noes, 44.

E. A. Powell moved to lay the whole report on the table, which motion did not prevail.

The report, as amended, was adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON CHURCH EXTENSION, REPORT NO. 1.

The work of Church extension shall hereafter be conducted under the following provisions and regulations:

ARTICLE I. There shall be a Board of Church Extension, consisting of a President, Vice-president, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and thirteen Managers, to be elected quadrennially by the General Conference, and to continue in office until their successors are elected and accept. The Bishops shall be, *ex officio*, members of the Board. The Board shall fill all vacancies that may occur during the intervals of the General Conference.

ART. II. The officers elected by this General Conference shall, as soon as practicable, procure, under general or special law of the State of Kentucky, an incorporation, whereby they and their successors in office, in perpetual succession, shall be made a body corporate under the name of "Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South," with powers of contracting and being contracted with, suing and being sued, and all other powers deemed necessary for the successful prosecution of the work, not inconsistent with these Articles

ART. III. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Board, under its direction, and shall be subject to

the authority and control of the Board, by whom his salary shall be fixed and paid. He may be a member of any Annual Conference, but shall reside where the Board is located.

ART. IV. The Board shall be located in the city of Louisville, Kentucky, and shall meet at least annually at the time the Board shall determine, and at such other times as the President and the Corresponding Secretary may appoint. Nine shall constitute a quorum at an annual meeting, and seven at a called meeting.

ART. V. The revenues of the Board shall be derived from annual collections in every congregation, from special collections by the Corresponding Secretary and the Bishops, and from gifts, devises, and bequests.

ART. VI. The Board shall have authority to regulate its own proceedings; to determine what amount each Annual Conference shall be asked to raise by collections for the use of the Board during the ensuing year; to appropriate money to pay incidental expenses; to determine what amount may be donated or loaned to each applicant; and to do such other business as may be legitimate and proper for them to do. Provided, however, that no money shall be appropriated in the general work for other purposes than the purchase or securing of church-lots and the erection or securing of church-buildings; and provided, further, that the Board shall not involve itself in debt.

ART. VII. The Board shall have authority to raise and administer a Loan Fund, which shall be held separate from funds raised for general distribution, and which shall be used only in loans on adequate security, to be determined by the Board; to receive and hold in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, any real or personal property, and to sell and convey the same for the uses and objects herein declared.

ART. VIII. All applications for aid shall set forth—

1. A description of the building for which aid is asked.
2. The estimated and probable cost when completed.
3. The amount of cash and reliable subscriptions now on hand.
4. The nature of the title, its validity, whether held in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.
5. The names of the Board of Trustees.
6. The number of Church-members, Sunday-school children, and population of the place, if within a town or city.
7. Any additional facts that may be required by the Board, or that may be deemed necessary or useful to the Board in making a decision.

ART. IX. Each Annual Conference shall organize a Conference

Board of Church Extension, which shall be auxiliary to the Parent Board, and shall have charge of all the interests and work of the Church extension within the Conference. The preachers shall take up a collection in every congregation annually for Church extension; and of the funds thus collected, or in any other way coming into the hands of the Annual Conference Boards, fifty per cent. shall be turned over to the General Board to be expended under its direction, but devisors may give special directions to their contributions.

ART. X. It shall be the duty of the Presiding Elders to bring the subject of Church extension prominently before the District and Quarterly Conferences, and see to it that the most efficient plans are adopted for raising the amounts apportioned to the charge; and the Bishops shall call for a report of the Annual Conference Board in the regular order of the Conference proceedings, and direct attention to the subject.

Respectfully submitted.

D. R. McANALLY, Chairman.

W. M. Rush offered the following:

Resolved, That the delegates of the patronizing Conferences of such papers as desire recognition by this General Conference are hereby authorized to nominate editors for their papers, respectively, for confirmation by the General Conference.

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| W. M. RUSH, | H. V. PHILPOTT, |
| JOHN E. EDWARDS, | SAMUEL RODGERS, |
| N. H. D. WILSON, | J. S. KEY, |
| T. H. B. ANDERSON, | R. HINER, |

L. S. Burkhead moved to amend by inserting, "and all those papers published in the interest of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South."

F. Richardson moved to lay the whole matter on the table, and the motion prevailed—ayes, 85; noes, 84.

R. W. Thompson, alternate, appeared, and took his seat in the place of John Adams, clerical delegate from East Texas Conference.

J. E. Evans and J. S. Key offered the following resolution, which was not adopted:

Resolved, That the Rule of Order No. 12 be so amended that during the remainder of the session of this General Conference no member shall speak more than twice on the same subject, nor more than five minutes at one time without leave of the Conference; nor shall any member speak more than once until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

The following paper was presented by D. R. McAnally, which was read and adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the Chair to nominate a Board of Managers for the Church Extension Society, and they are directed to report to-morrow at 11 A.M., and that the election be made the special order for that hour.

D. R. McANALLY, T. S. WADE,
W. C. IRELAND, N. T. LUPTON.

The credentials of Bishop Holsey, as fraternal messenger from the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, were presented by E. E. Wiley, and read by the Secretary, viz.:

To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, now in session at Nashville, Tenn.:

This is to certify that Bishop D. H. Holsey is duly elected to bear the fraternal greetings of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America to your honorable body now in session.

Also, by an act of our General Conference, now in session at Washington, D. C., Bishop Holsey is empowered to confer with you on any subject, soliciting your aid to help build up our institutions of learning, and our missionary work; it having been agreed that any arrangement arrived at and agreed upon by your honorable body and said Bishop Holsey will be generally commended by the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America.

Signed in behalf of said General Conference.

J. A. BEEBE,
W. H. DANIELS, Secretary.

Washington, D. C., May 15, 1882.

Bishop Holsey was introduced, and addressed the Conference.

E. E. Wiley moved that the papers presented by Bishop Holsey be referred to the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, which was so ordered.

The Conference then adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Parker.

Monday Afternoon, May 22, 1882.

Conference met at 3 o'clock P.M., Bishop Parker in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by W. S. Turner.

The Minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Leave of absence was granted to E. S. Smith, of the Texas Conference, and I. G. John, alternate clerical delegate, took his place.

H. F. Johnson asked and obtained leave to withdraw Report No. 2 of the Committee on Bible Cause from the papers now lying on the table.

Leave of absence was granted S. Cupples after to-morrow.

I. G. John was assigned to the Committee on Episcopacy, in place of E. S. Smith.

Bishop Granbery took the chair.

W. W. Walker, chairman of the committee appointed to nominate the members of the Book Committee, reported the following names, which were confirmed by the Conference as the Book Committee for the next *quidrennium*, viz.:

James Whitworth, lay, Nashville, Tenn.

Thomas D. Fite, lay, Nashville, Tenn.

N. Baxter, jr., lay, Nashville, Tenn.

William Morrow, lay, Nashville, Tenn.

E. H. East, lay, Nashville, Tenn.

S. J. Keith, lay, Nashville, Tenn.

William H. Evans, lay, Nashville, Tenn.

William H. Morgan, lay, Nashville, Tenn.

John A. Carter, lay, Louisville, Ky.

R. A. Young, clerical, Tennessee Conference.

M. S. Andrews, clerical, Alabama Conference.

T. S. Wade, clerical, Western Virginia Conference.

Joseph S. Key, clerical, South Georgia Conference.

J. E. Evans moved that the Conference proceed to elect a Book Agent.

A substitute was offered that the Conference proceed to elect a Book Agent, and that the same method of election shall be employed as in the ballot for Bishops.

A motion to lay the substitute on the table did not prevail—ayes, 89; noes, 89—and the substitute was then adopted.

The following were appointed tellers: H. J. Adams, North Georgia Conference; H. V. Philpott, Texas Conference; M. S. Andrews, Alabama Conference; F. Richardson, Holston Conference.

The ballots were collected by the tellers, and, on motion, they were permitted to retire with one of the Secretaries, in order to count the votes.

The committee appointed to nominate a Board of Missions presented the following names, which, on motion of J. B. McFerrin, were confirmed, viz.:

L. C. Garland, LL.D., President.

A. G. Haygood, D.D., Vice-president.

MANAGERS.

Rev. Charles Taylor, Kentucky Conference.

Rev. John S. Martin, Baltimore Conference.
Rev. P. A. Peterson, Virginia Conference.
Rev. W. G. E. Cunnyngnam, Holston Conference.
Rev. L. S. Burkhead, North Carolina Conference.
Rev. W. W. Duncan, South Carolina Conference.
Rev. W. H. Potter, North Georgia Conference.
Rev. J. B. West, Tennessee Conference.
Rev. D. C. Kelley, Tennessee Conference.
Rev. J. B. McFerrin, Tennessee Conference.
Col. E. W. Cole, Nashville, Tenn.
J. D. Hamilton, Nashville, Tenn.
Rev. R. B. Crawford, Alabama Conference.
Rev. C. B. Galloway, Mississippi Conference.
Rev. I. G. John, Texas Conference.
Rev. S. H. Babcock, Arkansas Conference.
Rev. H. C. Morrison, Louisville Conference.
Rev. E. R. Hendrix, Missouri Conference.
Rev. J. D. Shaw, North-west Texas Conference.
Rev. O. P. Fitzgerald, Pacific Conference.

J. B. McFerrin moved that the Conference proceed to elect a Treasurer of the Mission Board.

R. Hiner moved, as a substitute, that we proceed to elect a Missionary Secretary; and the substitute prevailed.

The following were appointed tellers: J. H. Dye, White River Conference; O. R. Blue, Alabama Conference; N. Scarritt, South-west Missouri Conference; A. H. Sutherland, West Texas Conference.

The ballots were collected, and the Secretary announced that 189 votes had been cast, of which 95 were necessary to a choice.

R. A. Young received 78 votes; J. S. Key, 51; D. C. Kelley, 16; scattering, less than 10 each, 44. No election.

The Secretary and tellers having returned from counting the votes cast for Book Agent, announced the result, as follows:

J. B. McFerrin received 152 votes; L. D. Palmer, 15; R. A. Young, 10; scattering 12. Total, 189; necessary to a choice, 95.

J. B. McFerrin, having received a majority of the votes cast, was announced by the Chair as duly elected Book Agent of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

The Conference then proceeded to take a second ballot for Missionary Secretary, which resulted as follows:

Robert A. Young received 100 votes; Joseph S. Key, 89; scattering, 5. Total, 194; necessary to a choice, 98.

Robert A. Young, having received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared duly elected Secretary of the Board of Missions.

The Conference proceeded to ballot for a Treasurer of the Board of Missions, and the tellers and a Secretary were instructed to retire and count the votes.

Bishop Parker announced the committee appointed to nominate the Board of Managers of the Church Extension Society, as follows: C. W. Miller, B. M. Messick, W. Burr, G. R. Browder, and A. B. Stark.

The Conference then proceeded to ballot for the Secretary of the Church Extension Society, the tellers and a Secretary retiring to count the votes.

The tellers and Secretary, having returned from making the count of votes for Treasurer of the Board of Missions, reported as follows:

D. C. Kelley received 132 votes; J. S. Key, 36; S. Noland, 13. Total, 181; necessary to a choice, 92.

D. C. Kelley, having received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared duly elected Treasurer of the Board of Missions.

On motion of N. T. Lupton, W. G. E. Cunyngham was elected, *viva voce*, Editor of Sunday-school Publications.

On motion, O. P. Fitzgerald was elected, *viva voce*, Editor of the Nashville *Christian Advocate*.

The tellers and Secretary, having returned from making the count of votes cast for Secretary of the Church Extension Society, reported the result, as follows:

David Morton received 117 votes; A. R. Winfield, 31; scattering, 26. Total, 174; necessary to a choice, 88.

David Morton, having received a majority of the votes cast, was announced as duly elected Secretary of the Church Extension Society.

The Conference proceeded to ballot for Book Editor, with the following result:

W. P. Harrison received 58 votes; A. M. Shipp, 45; B. Craven, 17; R. H. Rivers, 11; R. W. Bigham, 11; J. M. Wright, 11; J. W. Hinton, 10; scattering, 19. Total 182; necessary to a choice, 92. No election.

M. M. Pugh moved to adjourn, but the motion did not prevail.

The second ballot for Book Editor was taken, and resulted as follows:

W. P. Harrison received 92 votes; A. M. Shipp, 72; scattering, 12. Total, 176; necessary to a choice, 89.

W. P. Harrison, having received a majority of the votes cast, was declared duly elected Book Editor.

The Conference then adjourned, with the benediction by A. G. Haygood.

Tuesday Morning, May 23, 1882.

Conference met at the appointed hour, Bishop Pierce in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by T. T. Christian.

Bishop Granbery took the chair.

The Minutes of yesterday afternoon were read and approved.

Bishop Hargrove took the chair.

A. M. Shipp, Chairman, presented Report No. 7 of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, which was read and adopted, viz.:

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE, REPORT NO. 7.

The Committee on Fraternal Correspondence recommend for adoption the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the General Conference has heard with pleasure the fraternal greetings conveyed in the address of Bishop Holsey, of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, and in the letter of Bishop Hood, of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church; and heartily reciprocating the kindly feelings of said Churches, as expressed in the aforementioned address and letter, we pray that the God of all grace may continue to keep and prosper them in every good work.

A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

A. M. Shipp, Chairman, presented Report No. 8 of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, which was read and adopted, viz.:

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE, REPORT NO. 8.

The Committee on Fraternal Correspondence recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the Secretary be instructed to send the fraternal salutations of this General Conference to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, now in session at Atlanta, Ga.; and also to transmit the following to Bishop Foss, our late fraternal messenger from the Methodist Episcopal Church, viz.: The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, learns with pain of the dangerous illness of Bishop Foss, and sends him Christian greeting and sympathy.

A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

W. W. Bennett, Chairman, presented Report No. 10 of the Committee on Episcopacy, which was read.

After discussion by J. E. Edwards, J. E. Evans, Guilford Jones, T. F. Mangum, and W. W. Bennett, item 1 of the report was, on motion of C. I. Vandeventer, so amended as to order the republication of the Pastoral Address of 1874 in the Discipline.

Item 2, not requiring action by the Conference, was read for information, and the rules were suspended in order to act upon item 4, as it made a change in the Discipline.

The report, as amended, was adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, REPORT NO. 10.

The committee have had under consideration a paper signed by P. P. Ellis and others, and referred by the Conference, asking that the Pastoral Address of the Bishops, issued in 1874, and inserted in the appendix of the present edition of the Discipline, be inserted in the next revised edition of the Discipline. The committee recommend concurrence.

The committee have considered the question of the support of the General Superintendents for the next four years, and report as follows:

The allowance of each General Superintendent shall be \$3,000, including traveling expenses. The whole amount necessary for their support, and for Mrs. Wightman, is ascertained to be, for the next four years, \$111,960, and is distributed among the Annual Conferences as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Baltimore Conference..... | \$1,200 |
| Virginia Conference..... | 1,800 |
| North Carolina Conference..... | 1,750 |
| South Carolina Conference..... | 1,100 |
| North Georgia Conference..... | 1,750 |
| South Georgia Conference..... | 1,200 |
| Florida Conference..... | 300 |
| Alabama Conference | 1,300 |
| North Alabama Conference..... | 1,000 |
| Louisiana Conference..... | 800 |
| Mississippi Conference..... | 950 |
| North Mississippi Conference..... | 1,020 |
| Memphis Conference | 1,440 |
| Tennessee Conference..... | 1,800 |
| Holston Conference | 1,000 |
| Kentucky Conference..... | 960 |
| Louisville Conference..... | 1,440 |
| St. Louis Conference | 720 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| South-west Missouri Conference..... | \$ 720 |
| Missouri Conference..... | 1,000 |
| Western Conference..... | 120 |
| Little Rock Conference..... | 600 |
| Arkansas Conference..... | 500 |
| White River Conference..... | 500 |
| Indian Mission Conference..... | 50 |
| Texas Conference..... | 330 |
| North Texas Conference..... | 540 |
| North-west Texas Conference..... | 575 |
| East Texas Conference..... | 325 |
| West Texas Conference..... | 240 |
| Columbia Conference..... | 60 |
| Pacific Conference..... | 180 |
| Los Angeles Conference..... | 30 |
| Illinois Conference..... | 200 |
| German Mission Conference..... | 100 |
| Denver Conference. | 60 |
| Montana Conference..... | 30 |
| Western Virginia Conference..... | 300 |
| Total estimate..... | <u>\$27,990</u> |

The committee recommend the following for adoption by the Conference:

Whereas the Discipline requires the Board of Finance of Annual Conferences shall send to the Book Agent their receipts for payments on Bishops' Fund; and whereas the Discipline also requires of the Bishops to report to the Book Agent the amount received by them of the several Annual Conferences; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the Book Agent, as Treasurer of the Bishops' Fund, is hereby instructed to make an annual settlement with the Bishops, and to report the same to the General Conference.

2. That the balance of \$1,022.46, now in the hands of the Bishops as a balance, shall be charged up to them as part payment of their salaries for the ensuing year. In case of the death of a Bishop during the year, his widow shall be allowed his full salary to the end of the year, and after that the allowance of his widow shall be \$1000 a year.

Respectfully submitted.

W. W. BENNETT, Chairman.

J. W. HINTON, Secretary.

S. Rodgers, Chairman, presented Report No. 11 of the Committee on Itinerancy, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, REPORT NO. 11.

Your committee notes with pleasure the improvement in Journals of the Annual Conferences. There is a more complete record of proceedings, greater uniformity of method, and such marginal notes as facilitate reference. It is believed that these results are largely due to the action of the General Conferences of 1866-1878.

That all Journals may be correctly kept, your committee begs leave to submit the following Rules, which, with some modifications now made, have heretofore been enacted by the General Conference:

1. The Secretaries of the several Annual Conferences are hereby instructed to record in their Conference Journals respectively all the acts of the Conference of every kind whatever, in the order of their occurrence, or in an appendix; especially all complaints, charges, and specifications, with the decisions in all such cases; and also all resolutions, reports of committees, statistics, memoirs of deceased ministers, and the appointments of preachers, and whatever else enters into and constitutes a complete historical record of each annual session.

2. The several Annual Conferences are hereby instructed to require their Secretaries to conform their Journals to the plan indicated in Rule 1.

3. Reports of standing committees and statistics may be recorded in the appendix, but other matter should, when practicable, be recorded in the body of the Journal.

4. The Bishops are hereby instructed to supervise the Conference Journals; to direct the Secretaries to the requirements of the General Conference as to the manner of keeping their Journals; to supply the Secretaries with copies of their decisions on all questions of law submitted to them in an Annual Conference; and to affix their signatures in all cases to the Minutes of the Conferences over which they preside.

5. The Secretaries are hereby directed to keep up a running-heading from page to page of the Journals, stating the date of the Conference session; also, to make such marginal notes of the matter in the body of the Journal as will facilitate reference thereto.

6. In all cases where an approved examination is required upon the Course of Study, prescribed by the Bishops as a condition precedent to reception on trial, continuance on trial, election to deacon's and elder's orders, etc., the Secretary is hereby directed to record the fact of such examination; and also of the recommendation of a Quarterly Conference, where such recommendation is required by law.

7. In the event of the failure of a Bishop, in reporting ordinations

to the Annual Conference, to mention who are traveling and who are local preachers, it is hereby made the duty of the Secretary to make such discrimination in his record.

8. It is the duty of the Secretary to record *all* the disciplinary questions, under which the business of the Conference is to be transacted, *in full*, and with their appropriate numerical notation; and it is specially directed that business appropriate under one question shall neither be transacted nor recorded under another.

The attention of Bishops and Secretaries is directed particularly to this rule.

9. The fact that the application of a local deacon for elder's orders is duly accompanied by "a note certifying his belief in the doctrine and discipline of our Church" is to be recorded by the Secretary.

10. It is directed that in all elections of delegates to the General Conference there shall be made a full record of the aggregate number of clerical and lay members, as well as the number of delegates to which the Conference is entitled, the number of ballots cast, the number requisite for election, the number of votes given for each respectively, the declaration of election before the Conference by the President of the Conference, with any other facts accompanying, as, for example, whether the election, in accordance with the Discipline, was by the same body, "in Conference assembled," under the President of the Conference, or in rooms apart of clerical and lay votes respectively, in violation of the Discipline.

11. The Secretaries of the Annual Conferences are requested to use such books for their records as will conveniently comprise the regular proceedings of the four annual sessions, coming between the sessions of the General Conference, with the appendix for reports, etc., so that only one book of medium size shall be necessary to be forwarded to the General Conference for the use of the Committee on Itinerancy.

12. The Bishops are directed to require Secretaries of Annual Conferences to read these rules in their several Conferences immediately after the organization thereof.

13. After a Journal has been submitted for examination no correction or addition shall be made to it. The report must show the condition of the Journal as it was placed in the hands of the committee.

14. The Bishops are hereby requested to call attention of the Secretaries, when reading the Minutes of daily sessions for approval of the Conference, to any omissions of names, questions, or facts, or to

the insertion of any thing in the record in violation of the requirements of the Discipline, or in conflict with any resolutions, adopted by the General Conference, respecting the duties of Secretaries in keeping the Journal of an Annual Conference.

15. The General Book Agent at Nashville is hereby instructed to print on convenient slips of paper these rules and directions, which shall by him be furnished to the Bishops, and also to the Secretaries of the several Annual Conferences, who shall paste the same in their Journals for constant reference. SAMUEL RODGERS, Chairman.

D. C. Kelley, Chairman, presented Report No. 10 of the Committee on Missions, which was read, and lies on the table, under the rule.

The following paper was read:

To the Fathers and Brethren in General Conference assembled.

The following action was taken by the General Executive Association of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and ordered to be presented to the General Conference for immediate action:

Resolved, That we are willing to work under our present Constitution the ensuing four years, unless the General Conference decide to the contrary. MRS. JULIANA HAYES, President.

MRS. F. A. BUTLER, Recording Secretary.

MISS M. L. GIBSON, Assistant Secretary.

T. M. Cobb, agent, presented a report in relation to the bequest of J. J. Bearden, of Batesville, Mo.

On motion of J. Stokes, T. M. Cobb was continued the agent, with plenary powers in the case.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on Missions was taken up and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, REPORT NO. 1.

Your committee having carefully considered the recommendations and suggestions contained in the Episcopal Address, touching the formation of Annual Conferences in the interests of our missionary work in China and Mexico, beg leave to report the following resolution:

Resolved, That the College of Bishops be authorized—the Board of Missions concurring—to organize Annual Conferences in China and Central Mexico during the next *quadrennium*; that it is advisable to organize the Conference in China as soon as it may be practicable.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on Revisal was taken up and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, REPORT NO. 1.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to report that they have considered that portion of the Bishops' Address in which attention is called to the "undue facility with which supernumeraries and superannuates are made," and the evils flowing therefrom, and would respectfully recommend that the Discipline be amended as follows: 1. As answer 2 to the question, "What is a supernumerary preacher?" Section IX., Chapter III., page 96, insert the following: "A supernumerary relation shall not be granted by an Annual Conference, except on the recommendation of a committee on Conference relations, to be appointed by the Conference, consisting of not less than seven members, to whom such application shall have been referred. Nor shall said committee, in making up their decision, take into consideration any thing else than the personal disability of the applicant: provided, however, that in case said committee report adversely, the Conference may by a vote of not less than three-fourths of the members present grant said application." The present question 2 in the foregoing section to be numbered 3. 2. As answer 2 to question, "What is a superannuated preacher?" Section X., Chapter III., page 97, insert the following: "A superannuated relation shall not be granted by an Annual Conference, except on the recommendation of a committee on Conference relations, to be appointed by the Conference, consisting of not less than seven members, to whom such application shall have been referred. Nor shall said committee, in making up their decision, take into consideration any thing else than this question, viz., Is the applicant really worn out in the itinerant service? Provided, however, that in case said committee report adversely, the Conference may, by a vote of not less than three-fourths of the members present, grant said application." The present question 2 in the foregoing section to be numbered 3.

The committee have also considered a resolution offered by E. E. Hoss and E. E. Wiley, asking that the Discipline be amended so that "none shall be entitled to the supernumerary or superannuated relation who have not completed the full Course of Study prescribed for under-graduates," and recommend that this Conference do not concur.

P. A. PETERSON, Chairman.

Report No. 1 of the Committee on Boundaries was taken from the table.

Pending the discussion on item 1 of the report, the order of the day, the election of a Board of Managers for the Church Extension Society, was considered, and the committee to nominate a Board made their report.

The report was recommitted with instructions to report the names of the three officers necessary to the organization of the Board.

H. C. Morrison was placed on the Committee of Nomination instead of A. B. Stark, absent.

Consideration of Report No. 1 of the Committee on Boundaries was resumed, and the report was adopted, as follows :

COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES, REPORT NO. 1.

G. R. Browder, Chairman of the Committee on Boundaries, made the following report.

Your committee have considered the following papers, viz. :

1. Memorial from Girard Church, Columbus District, South Georgia Conference, asking that the State line between Alabama and Georgia at that point be made the boundary line between the South Georgia and Alabama Conferences.

2. Memorial from Missouri Conference, asking permission to divide itself into two Conferences, if deemed desirable.

3. Petition from North Alabama Conference, asking the transfer of certain territory to them belonging to the North Mississippi Conference, embracing the city of Columbus, Miss.

4. Petition from Prairie Circuit, East Texas Conference, asking to be transferred to North Texas Conference.

We recommend concurrence in the first and second, and non-concurrence in the third and fourth. G. R. BROWDER, Chairman.

IRVIN MILLER, Secretary.

On motion of J. E. Edwards, the Conference resolved to hold an afternoon session, beginning at 3 o'clock.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Revisal was taken from the table and considered.

J. E. Edwards moved to disagree to the recommendation of the committee requiring Secretaries of the Church Conferences to present the Church Register and Records of Church Conferences to the Third Quarterly Conference for inspection.

The motion did not prevail—ayes 88, noes 91.

Item 1 was then adopted, ayes 90, noes 88.

Item 2 was adopted, ayes 101, noes 93.

The committee appointed to nominate a Board of Managers for the Church Extension Society reported the following names, which were confirmed by the Conference, viz.:

President, James S. Lithgow, Louisville, Ky.

Vice-president, Presley Meguiar, Louisville, Ky.

Treasurer, John W. Proctor, Danville, Ky.

Secretary, David Morton, Louisville, Ky.

MANAGERS.

James G. Carter, Louisville, Ky.

Charles B. Seymour, Louisville, Ky.

J. C. Woodward, Lexington, Ky.

F. B. Carroll, Parkersburg, W. Va.

G. D. Shands, Senatobia, Miss.

C. I. Vandeventer, St. Joseph, Mo.

C. E. Brown, North-west Texas.

J. C. Morris, Louisville, Ky.

H. C. Settle, Louisville, Ky.

W. T. Harris, Brownsville, Tenn.

W. F. Compton, Ukiak, Cal.

Joseph Emory, Corvallis, Oregon.

James H. Carlisle, Spartanburg, S. C.

Consideration of Report No. 2 of the Committee on Revisal was resumed.

Item 3 was adopted.

Pending the farther consideration of the report, the hour of adjournment arrived, and the Conference adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Hargrove.

Tuesday Afternoon, May 23, 1882.

Conference met at 3 o'clock P.M., Bishop McTyeire in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by J. D. Shaw.

The Minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Bishop McTyeire announced the safe arrival at his home of the venerable Bishop Paine, whose extreme feebleness would not permit a farther attendance upon the sessions of the Conference.

The following resolution was presented and adopted :

Whereas we have heard of the death of the wife of the Rev. John A. Thompson, a member of this Conference : therefore,

Resolved, That we tender to him the sympathies of this body in his sad bereavement.

ANSON WEST, J. B. STEVENSON,

L. M. WILSON, E. A. POWELL.

E. H. Moore was granted leave of absence on account of the death of his sister.

The consideration of Report No. 2 of the Committee on Revisal was resumed.

Item 4 was adopted, ayes 90, noes 63.

Items 5 and 6 were adopted.

M. S. Andrews moved to substitute for item 7 the following: Amend Section V. by adding, "except as provided in Section IV., paragraph 3, on page 198." This motion was adopted.

Items 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, were read and adopted.

W. H. Potter moved to postpone the whole report indefinitely. The motion did not prevail.

Anson West moved to lay the report on the table. The motion did not prevail.

On motion, the report as amended was adopted, ayes 123, noes 52.

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, REPORT NO. 2.

The Committee on Revisal would respectfully report that they have duly considered the suggestions contained in the Bishops' Address in regard to the supervision of the records of the Church, Quarterly, and District Conferences, and recommend the adoption of the following regulations:

On page 67 of the Discipline add as item 7 in the order of the Church Conference business, the following: "It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Church Conference to present his Church Register and the records of Church Conferences to the Third Quarterly Conference for inspection."

On page 62 of the Discipline, in the order of Quarterly Conference business, change question 15 so that it shall read: "Is there a Church Register and a record of Church Conferences, and have they been faithfully kept?" [The Conference shall cause these records to be examined.]

On page 116 of the Discipline, add to the answer to question 5 these words, "and at the District Conference for examination," so that the answer shall read thus: "To present the records of the Quarterly Conference, and to report to the Joint Board of Finance of the Annual Conference a full account of the acts of his Board of Stewards the preceding year, and to have the same at the Quarterly Conference and at the District Conference for examination."

On page 51 of the Discipline insert as answer 3 to question 8, in the order of business in the Annual Conferences, the following: "Let every Annual Conference examine the records of District Conferences," the present answers 3, 4, and 5, to be numbered 4, 5, and 6.

On page 78 of the Discipline, at the close of answer 9 to question 1, concerning the duties of Presiding Elder, add these words, "and have the records of his District Conference at the Annual Conference

for examination," so that the answer shall read: "To procure at the Fourth Quarterly Conference full statistics from every charge, to be reported at the Annual Conference in case the preacher in charge fail to make his report; and have the records of his District Conference at the Annual Conference for examination."

We have considered a paper signed by B. F. Alexander, P. P. Ellis, and C. W. Carter, and one by J. H. H. Figgatt, proposing a change of Discipline, page 59, Section IV., Chapter II., answer 8 to question 4, in the order of Quarterly Conference business, so as to make the Recording Steward the recorder of the proceedings of the Quarterly Conference, and recommend that the said answer 8 be so amended as to read thus: "To see that all its proceedings are faithfully kept by the Secretary of the Conference, and properly signed by the President and Secretary, to be recorded by the Recording Steward in a book kept by him for that purpose."

We recommend that Section V. be amended as follows: "except as provided in Section IV., paragraph 3, page 198."

We recommend the adoption by this Conference of the resolution of P. A. Peterson and W. W. Walker, as follows:

Resolved, That the Book Editor be requested to number the paragraphs in future editions of the Discipline, consecutively through the entire book, regardless of the divisions into chapters and sections; and also to give in the index-references the number of the paragraph instead of the pages.

The committee disapprove the resolution of J. S. Kennedy proposing an amendment of the Discipline requiring that a collection be taken in each pastoral charge to defray expenses of the delegates to the General Conference, deeming it best to leave this matter with the several Annual Conferences, and therefore recommend non-concurrence.

The committee recommend non-concurrence in the resolution offered by J. S. Kennedy and T. P. Summers, proposing to change answer 1 to question 1, Section II., Chapter II., page 42 of the Discipline, by striking out the words "one of whom may be a local preacher."

The committee also recommend non-concurrence in the resolution signed by the same, proposing a change in answer 1, question 1, Section I., page 34 of the Discipline, by striking out the clause "one may be a local preacher."

We recommend non-concurrence in the paper of William Allen and J. M. Binkley, proposing a change of punctuation in Articles of Religion I. and XVII., as follows: "Omitting the comma which follows

the word *things*, in Article I., and the comma which follows the word *regeneration*, in Article XVII."

John Adams and S. W. Turner ask that Church Conferences be empowered to strike from the Church-rolls those who habitually neglect public worship and the social meetings of the Church. We recommend non-concurrence.

B. F. Alexander and C. W. Carter ask that, in connection with the order of business in Quarterly Conferences, a note be placed at the bottom of page 63, to read as follows: "The questions followed by figures are to be asked at the Quarterly Conferences, indicated by the numbers, at the discretion of the President." We recommend non-concurrence.

A resolution signed by the same asks that answer 6 to question 1, Section III., Chapter III., page 77 of the Discipline, be amended by striking out the words "and the publication at our own press of tracts and Sunday-school books." We recommend non-concurrence.

A resolution (without a signature) was sent to the committee asking that the General Conference legalize the appointment of women as Sunday-school superintendents. Believing that no legislation is called for on this subject, we recommend non-concurrence.

No action is deemed necessary on the papers of H. J. Adams and W. A. Turner in relation to supernumeraries and superannuates, as the subject has already been reported upon by your committee.

The resolution of William Allen asking that reference or proof texts be added to our Articles of Religion is not approved, and we therefore recommend non-concurrence.

P. A. PETERSON, Chairman.

R. H. Powell was granted leave of absence.

P. A. Peterson moved to reconsider Report No. 1 of the Committee on Revisal, and the motion prevailed.

The following amendment to the report was then offered: Strike out "no application for," and insert "a supernumerary relation shall not." The amendment was adopted.

The report, as amended, was adopted.

Report No. 10 of the Committee on Missions was taken from the table.

Articles I., II., III., and IV. were adopted.

Article V. was amended by inserting "five" instead of "three," and then the Article was adopted.

Article VI. was adopted.

On motion of N. Scarritt, Article VII. was amended by adding the

words "from devises and bequests" after the word "fees," and the Article, so amended, was adopted.

N. Scarritt moved to amend Article VIII. by inserting, after the word "Treasurer," the words "and supervise the general work of the Society."

Pending the consideration of Article VIII. a motion to adjourn prevailed, and the Conference adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop McTyre.

Wednesday Morning, May 24, 1882.

Conference met at the appointed hour, 8:30 A.M., Bishop Pierce in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by W. H. Browning.

The Minutes of yesterday afternoon were read and approved.

On motion, the rules were suspended, and consideration of Report No. 10 of the Committee on Missions was resumed.

The question pending was the amendment of N. Scarritt to Article VIII.

J. E. Evans moved to lay the amendment on the table, and the motion prevailed.

On motion, Article VIII. was adopted.

Articles IX., X., and XI. were adopted.

The following substitute for Article XII. was adopted: "An Auditor shall be elected to audit the accounts of the Society."

Article XIII. was read, amended, and adopted, as follows: "When vacancies occur in the interval of the annual meetings, the Board shall fill such vacancies till the annual meeting."

Article XIV. was amended and adopted.

Report No. 10 of the Committee on Missions was then adopted as a whole, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, REPORT NO. 10.

In view of the fact that the women in most heathen countries are accessible only to teachers of their own sex, the women of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, are hereby authorized to organize special missionary agencies under the following Constitution:

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be called "The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South."

ART. II. The objects of this Society shall be to enlist and unite the efforts of women and children in sending the gospel to women and children in heathen lands, through the agency of female missionaries, teachers, physicians, and Bible-readers.

ART. III. The work shall be accomplished by organizing Societies in each charge, and Conference Societies in each Conference, and shall be controlled by an executive body to be known as "The Woman's Board of Missions;" all these to be constituted as directed hereafter.

ART. IV. The operations of this Woman's Board shall be conducted in connection with the Parent Board of Missions, and subject to its advice and approval. When appropriations are made, the funds shall be sent through the Treasurer of the Parent Board to missions under its charge, to be used for no other purposes than those designated by the Woman's Board.

ART. V. The Board shall consist of a President, a Vice-president, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and five Managers (to be elected quadrennially), and the Corresponding Secretaries, or alternates, of the Conference Societies. The Secretary of the Board of Missions shall be an honorary member of the Woman's Board.

ART. VI. The Woman's Board shall meet annually to determine what fields shall be occupied, the number of persons to be employed in each, and to estimate and appropriate the amount necessary for the support of the missions under its charge. A majority shall constitute a quorum to transact business at the annual meetings; five shall be a quorum for monthly or called meetings. The transactions of the monthly or called meetings shall be subject to the approval or disapproval of the ensuing annual meeting.

ART. VII. The funds of this Board shall be derived from private efforts; from membership, life and honorary membership fees; from devises and bequests, and from public collections only at meetings appointed in behalf of the Society.

ART. VIII. The President shall preside at all meetings, and countersign all drafts on the treasury. In her absence the Vice-president shall preside, and in the absence of both a chairman shall be appointed *pro tem*.

ART. IX. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence, attend to all legal business, prepare the annual report, and publish quarterly a statement of the condition of the work. The Corresponding Secretary shall reside where the Board of Missions is located.

ART. X. The Treasurer shall hold the funds of the Board in safe deposit, which deposit shall be made by her as Treasurer, subject to authenticated drafts. She shall furnish annual and quarterly reports, to be published with those of the Corresponding Secretary.

ART. XI. The Recording Secretary shall keep the Minutes of all meetings in a permanent record, and obtain the signature of the President as approved.

ART. XII. An Auditor shall be elected to audit the accounts of the Society.

ART. XIII. When vacancies occur in the interval of the annual meetings, the Board shall fill said vacancies until the next annual meeting.

ART. XIV. Two of the five Managers shall be members of any one of the Auxiliary Societies at the place where the Board of Missions is located, and the remaining three shall represent severally the Eastern, the Southern, and the Western sections of the home field.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

The Chair called for reports of standing committees.

S. Rodgers, Chairman, presented Report No. 12 of the Committee on Itinerancy, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, REPORT NO. 12.

Your committee respectfully submit the following report:

The North Carolina Conference Journal has been kept with much care, the Secretary sparing no pains that he might have a perfect Journal. There are but few errors, and these of a minor character. Headings, marginal notes, and appendix, conform to the rules for the guidance of Secretaries.

Pages 496-509. Greater explicitness would have placed the administration in a clearer light; but even in this case the record does not seem to call for any formal criticism.

North Mississippi Conference Journal.—This Journal is above the average for neatness and correctness. Running-headings are wanting throughout. Marginal notes are not so full as desired in order to ready reference.

Excepting the Minutes for 1881, the penmanship is elegant, and the work free from blots, erasures, or interlineations.

For the most part the questions are all fully written, and the Minute business transacted under the proper heads.

In one instance question 16 (Who are located?) is answered by giving the name of a brother, without any statement as to whether it was by his request, or by order of the Conference.

In 1879, visiting committees to institutions of learning are not recorded, but are reported lost.

In 1881, the roll was called at the opening of the session, and sub-

sequently, but the names of members do not appear in the Minutes. They are found elsewhere in the Journal.

Page 355, election of lay delegates apart from the Conference-room, at the same time that clerical delegates were elected. The election was presided over by Judge H. W. Foote.

In cases where complaints were preferred, and investigating committees reported trials necessary, no one was appointed to prosecute.

In many instances, reports of committees are declared adopted, but nothing is said as to where they are. No mention is made of said reports being recorded in an appendix.

Reports for 1881 not found anywhere.

SAMUEL RODGERS, Chairman.

H. F. Johnson, Chairman, presented Report No. 3 of the Committee on the Bible Cause, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON BIBLE CAUSE, REPORT NO. 3.

The Bible is the foundation of our holy religion. It is the base of operations in all Christian enterprises at home and abroad—the *sine qua non* in every Church-work, and in personal and family religion as well. It is the great source of the principles of civil law and civil government, and is the first factor in the advance of Christian civilization over the world.

The multiplication and distribution of the Bible until it shall be printed in every spoken language and dialect, and a copy placed in every family throughout the world, is an undertaking superlatively grand in its conception, and worthy of the united prayers and labors of all Churches, the full accomplishment of which would thrill earth and heaven with joy.

The American Bible Society has this work in hand. It may be truly called the greatest of all missionary movements, foreign and domestic, in our land. We rejoice in its past history, and pray that God may bless its future a thousand-fold more.

In reference to the paper of Dr. Savage, suggesting a more definite plan for collections for the Society, we recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That we most cordially commend to all our congregations the American Bible Society as well deserving the support of all Christian people.

2. That we recommend to our pastors to give to their congregations, so far as practicable, the privilege of contributing to the Bible cause.

3. That we have greatly enjoyed the visit of Dr. A. S. Hunt, one

of the Corresponding Secretaries of the Society, and will always welcome him in our midst, and that a copy of this report be furnished him to be presented to the Board of Managers.

Respectfully submitted.

H. F. JOHNSON, Chairman.

The following resolution was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That this General Conference authorize the Annual Conferences owning and publishing Church-papers to report to this Conference, through their delegations, the editors chosen for their respective papers.

J. D. SHAW,

J. S. KEY.

W. W. Bennett moved to suspend the rules in order to take from the table Report No. 3 of the Committee on Education. The motion did not prevail.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Missions was taken from the table, read, and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, REPORT NO. 2.

The Committee on Missions beg leave to report that they have had under patient consideration the memorial of the West Texas delegation to this General Conference, asking the organization of an Annual Conference to embrace the Mexican work within the bounds of the West Texas Conference and the Border Mexican States, and to be known as the Mexican Border Mission Conference. After full and free discussion, would respectfully and unanimously make, in regard to the organization of this Conference, the same general recommendation as was contained in our report No. 1 with reference to China and Central Mexico.

We recommend the adoption of the resolution of L. M. Wilson and W. A. McCarty, asking that a column be added to our statistical reports for the Annual Conferences by which the amounts contributed by the women of the Church may be properly credited to the several Churches with which woman's missionary societies are connected.

With the "petition to adopt plan for colored missions," signed W. J. Joyce, your committee beg leave to recommend non-concurrence. Our non-concurrence is with the plan proposed, not with the purpose indicated.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

Report No. 3 of the Committee on Publishing Interests was taken from the table and considered.

N. T. Lupton moved to strike out all of the report contained in the preamble, and the motion prevailed.

The first resolution was read.

P. A. Peterson moved to lay the whole matter on the table. The motion did not prevail.

T. T. Christian offered as a substitute for the report, the following:

Resolved, That the College of Bishops appoint a commission of seven to revise the Hymn-book of the Church, and publish a new standard hymn-book for the use of the whole Church.

The substitute was rejected.

The first resolution was then adopted.

The second resolution was read, and, on motion, it was amended by striking out the words "to be elected," and substituting the words, "to be appointed by the Bishops;" and the resolution, so amended, was adopted.

The following are the resolutions as adopted:

Resolved, 1. That the General Conference hereby authorizes the revision and improvement of the abridged Hymn-book now in use, if it can be done with advantage, or, if it cannot, the compilation and publication of a book of the same size, or smaller, and upon a similar plan, and to be sold at the same price.

2. That a committee of five be appointed by the Bishops, who shall be charged with the duty of carrying into effect the foregoing resolution: provided that the compilation or revision made by the said committee shall not be published until it has been submitted to and approved by a majority of the Bishops.

W. W. Bays, alternate, took the place of F. Richardson, clerical delegate from the Holston Conference.

J. W. Carnes, alternate, took the place of A. H. Quillian, clerical delegate from the Denver Conference.

Report No. 5 of the Committee on Itinerancy was taken up, and the report of the committee, with an accompanying report of a minority, considered.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, the minority report was laid on the table.

The report of the majority of the committee was then adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, REPORT NO. 5.

Your committee have had referred to them several papers, principally from members of the Holston Conference, asking modification in the appointment of Presiding Elders, so that no man can be appointed to the office more than four years successively. We respectfully recommend non-concurrence.

SAMUEL RODGERS, Chairman.

On motion of J. E. Edwards, the Conference resolved to hold an afternoon session, beginning at 3 o'clock.

Report No. 3 of the Committee on Missions was taken from the table and adopted, as follows :

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, REPORT NO. 3.

The Committee on Missions have had under consideration the following papers referred to them :

1. A memorial from the North Carolina Conference respecting our missionary work.

2. Resolution of P. A. Peterson and Richard Irby in relation to having in each Conference a sermon on Missions at the annual session.

Your committee submit the following: In common with the memorialists, your committee are painfully impressed with the meager and inadequate sum raised by our Connection compared with the pressing wants of the mission-work. The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few. The cry is heard, coming up from the dark regions of the earth, "Come over and help us!" and this cry is sounding, sounding in the ears of Christian men and women. How shall we respond? How shall we raise our contributions to one dollar per member, and increase our missionary fund to eight hundred thousand dollars a year? By what words, by what methods, shall we attain nearer to the standard of duty? To solve these inquiries, your committee respectfully recommend: That it shall be the duty of each Bishop presiding in an Annual Conference to see to it that a day shall be set apart, to be known as "Missionary Day," in which earnest inquiry be instituted into the best methods of raising funds for missions, and of infusing and diffusing in the mind of the Church an earnest, healthful, and scriptural interest in this great work, and that there be such religious exercises connected therewith as the said Annual Conference may direct; also hold the usual missionary anniversary. That each presiding officer of a District Conference shall provide for holding a special missionary service during the Conference session.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Boundaries was taken from the table.

Item 1 was read as follows :

1. Memorial from North Alabama Conference, asking restoration of boundary line between North Alabama and North Mississippi Conferences, to the State line, as said boundary line existed prior to the meeting of the General Conference at Atlanta in 1878. We recommend that said request be granted.

A minority report was taken from the table and read, as follows:

The undersigned members of the Committee on Boundaries respectfully present this minority report on the subject of changing the line between the North Alabama and North Mississippi Conferences, and ask that the petition be not granted, for the following reasons, to wit: 1. The said territory is a small strip of country about four by six miles, cut off from the North Alabama Conference by the Tombigbee River, and can be served more conveniently by the North Mississippi Conference. 2. The members of the Church within that territory are satisfied with their present relation, and do not desire any change.

H. W. FOOTE, J. W. PROCTOR,
A. C. MITCHELL, T. SHACKELFORD.

H. W. Foote moved to substitute the minority report for that of the majority.

Pending consideration of the subject the hour of adjournment arrived, and the Conference adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Kavanaugh.

Wednesday Afternoon, May 24, 1882.

Conference met at 3 o'clock P.M., Bishop Pierce in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by S. H. Babcock.

The Minutes of the morning session were read and confirmed.

J. E. Edwards moved that when we adjourn it be to meet at 8 o'clock P.M. The motion prevailed.

Leave of absence was granted to J. A. Parker and C. G. Andrews.

Under the call for reports of standing committees,

A. M. Shipp, Chairman, presented Report No. 9 of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, which was adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE, REPORT NO. 9.

Your Committee on Fraternal Correspondence beg leave to report for adoption the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the second Wednesday of the General Conference, to be held in the city of Richmond, Va., in May, 1886, is suggested as the day for the reception of fraternal delegates, and that the evening of that day, and such other evenings as the Conference may order, shall be set apart for listening to addresses from delegations, and that all bodies in correspondence with us, be fully advised in our letters and by our visiting delegates of the day ordered by this body for the reception of fraternal delegates, their letters, and their words of greeting.

A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

[The place of holding the General Conference in 1886 not having

been selected at the time of adopting this report, the Editor has filled the blank with the name of the city chosen the following day.—BOOK EDITOR.]

The following resolutions were read and unanimously adopted by a rising vote:

Resolved, 1. That we, the members of this General Conference, tender to the citizens, Churches, and pastors of Nashville our hearty thanks for the kind, generous, and delightful manner in which they have received and entertained us in their hospitable homes and churches.

2. That our thanks are due to the railroad officials, as well as to the daily papers of the city, and the *Daily Advocate* for faithful reports and kindly notices.

THEO. TURNBULL, J. W. PAULETT,
P. P. ELLIS, T. J. MAGRUDER.

An invitation to the General Conference, to hold its next session in Nashville, was presented by Jordan Stokes, but, after some discussion, it was withdrawn.

The consideration of Report No. 2 of the Committee on Boundaries was resumed, the pending question being a motion to substitute the minority report for item 1 of the majority report.

The motion to substitute the minority report for item 1 of the majority report prevailed—ayes 59, noes 56.

Items 2, 3, and 4 were read and adopted.

Item 5 was read, when R. Hiner moved as a substitute for this item that the Bishops be authorized to organize an Eastern Kentucky Conference, if in their judgment they think best, during the ensuing *quadrennium*.

The substitute did not prevail.

Item 5 was adopted.

Item 6 was amended, on motion of I. G. John, and adopted.

The report, as amended, was then adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES, REPORT NO. 2.

Your committee have had before them and duly considered the following papers:

1. Memorial from North Alabama Conference asking restoration of boundary line between North Alabama and North Mississippi Conferences, to the State line, as said boundary line existed prior to the meeting of the General Conference at Atlanta in 1878. We recommend that said request be not granted.

2. Memorial from Arkansas Conference as to change of boundary between Arkansas and White River Conferences. We recom-

mend the following change, viz.: Start at the mouth of Sillamore and run up the South Sillamore to line of Range Twelve; thence due south with range line to Little Red River; thence down Little Red River to Miller's Ferry, to the present line.

3. Memorial from White River Conference, asking transfer to them of part of Remmisco county, Missouri—now in St. Louis Conference. We recommend said request be not granted.

4. Memorial from Columbia Conference, asking that all that part of California north of Scott's Mountain to the State line—now belonging to Columbia Conference—be remanded to the Pacific Conference, and that Idaho Territory be added to Columbia Conference. We recommend concurrence therein.

5. Memorial from the Quarterly Conference of West Liberty District, Kentucky Conference, asking for a new Conference in Eastern Kentucky. We recommend non-concurrence therein.

6. Memorial from West Texas and Texas Conferences, asking certain changes in boundary lines. Concurred in, and the following changes are recommended:

First. Substitute the following, paragraph 31 of appendix to Discipline, page 345, for the first twelve lines, and to the word "thence" in the thirteenth line, "North-west Texas Conference shall be bounded as follows, viz.: Beginning on the Trinity River at the south-east corner of Navarro county, and running thence on the south line of said county to the north-east corner of Limestone county; thence on the east line of Limestone (including those parts of Wortham and Mexico Circuits that are situated within Freestone county), to a point opposite the line between Groesbeck and Kosse Circuits; thence west to the south-west corner of Groesbeck Circuit; thence in a direct line to the south-east corner of McLennan county; thence with the south line of said county to Bell county; thence with the east line of Bell to Milam county; thence with the south line of Bell to Williamson county; thence on the west line of Williamson to Lee county; thence on the south line of Williamson to Burnett county; thence by the south-east line of Burnett to the Colorado River."

Second. Section 30 of appendix to Discipline, page 345, in third line, strike out "Leon" and substitute "Navarro;" also, strike out every thing after the tenth line, and insert "and the south line of the North-west Texas Conference."

It is moreover provided that the Texas and East Texas Conferences are hereby authorized to unite in one Conference, at any time during

the next *quadrennium*, under the name of the Texas Conference: provided, nevertheless, that should said Conferences unite, the territory ceded from the North-west Texas Conference to the Texas Conference, by this General Conference, shall revert to the North-west Texas Conference.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. R. BROWDER, Chairman.

IRVIN MILLER, Secretary.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Sunday-schools was taken from the table, and considered.

Items 1, 2, 3, and 4 were read and adopted.

Item 5 was read, and laid on the table.

Item 6 was read, and on motion of R. H. Mahon, was amended by striking out the word "Secretary" and inserting "Presiding Elder," and, as thus amended, was adopted.

Item 5 was taken from the table, and, on motion of R. B. Crawford, was amended, and adopted.

G. H. Hayes moved the indefinite postponement of the whole subject, but the motion did not prevail.

Items 7, 8, and 9 were read and adopted.

The report, as a whole, was then adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, REPORT NO. 2.

The Committee on Sunday-schools have had referred to them the following papers:

1. A communication from the Sunday-school Editor, containing the Minutes of a Convention of Sunday-school Secretaries, held in Nashville, in May, 1881.

2. A memorial from the Sunday-school Society of South-west Missouri Conference, suggesting certain changes in the chapter on Sunday-schools in the Discipline.

The importance and variety of the suggestions contained in these papers, and in other papers still under our consideration, are a gratifying proof of the interest taken by our people in the Sunday-school department of our work. Your committee have felt the responsibility involved in the attempt to embody these suggestions in a form which will make them useful to the Church. While no startling changes have been called for, some important features suggested by the experience of pastors and Sunday-school teachers are brought before us. To place these in a proper order it seems best to propose a new arrangement of some of the items contained in the chapter on Sunday-schools

in the Discipline. We respectfully offer the following as Chapter VI. Section V.:

Question. What directions shall be given concerning Sunday-schools?

Answer 1. Let Sunday-schools be formed in all our congregations, where ten persons can be collected for that purpose; and let mission-schools be formed wherever practicable.

Ans. 2. Let all the Sunday-schools connected with our congregations be under the control of our own Church; and let them use our own Catechisms, Question-books, and periodical literature.

Ans. 3. The Quarterly Conference of each circuit and station shall be a Board of Managers, having the supervision of all the Sunday-schools within its bounds. It shall elect, at the fourth Quarterly Conference of each year, on nomination of the preacher in charge, a Superintendent for each Sunday-school under its care: provided, that when a vacancy occurs in the superintendency of any Sunday-school during the interim of the Quarterly Conference, the preacher in charge shall appoint a Superintendent to serve until the meeting of the next Quarterly Conference: and provided, also, that the preacher in charge shall appoint a Superintendent for any new school that may be organized between the meetings of the Quarterly Conference.

Ans. 4. It shall be the duty of the preacher in charge of every circuit and station to be present in all the Sunday-schools in his charge as often as practicable, to catechise the children, to preach to them as often as convenient, to exhort them to attend regularly upon divine service, to see that they are instructed in the doctrines and usages of our Church, and to look after their spiritual welfare as a part of his regular pastoral charge. He shall also lay before the Quarterly Conference, at each quarterly-meeting, to be entered upon its journal, a written statement of the number and state of the Sunday-schools in his charge, and of the pastoral instruction of children, and make a report of the same to his Annual Conference.

Ans. 5. Each Annual Conference shall establish a Sunday-school Board, composed of one minister and one layman from each Presiding Elder's District, which shall give special attention to all the Sunday-school interests within the bounds of the Conference. The Board shall meet annually at the same time and place as the Annual Conference, and shall act as a Committee on Sunday-schools.

Ans. 6. It is recommended that a Sunday-school Conference be held in each Presiding Elder's District, either during the session of the District Conference or at some other time during the Conference-year;

and it shall be the duty of the Presiding Elder to furnish in advance a suitable programme, which may be used by said Sunday-school Conference.

Ans. 7. It is also recommended that a Conference Sunday-school Convention be held annually within the bounds of the Conference, at such time and place as may be designated by the Conference Sunday-school Board, and under such regulations and programme as this Board may provide.

Ans. 8. The General Conference shall elect an Editor of Sunday-school Books and Periodicals, who shall have editorial supervision of all the publications belonging to the Sunday-school Department. He shall reside at Nashville, Tennessee. The Sunday-school Committee shall furnish him such clerical and editorial assistance as may be necessary.

Ans. 9. The General Conference shall elect a committee of five, of which the Sunday-school Editor shall be the chairman, who, with the Book Agent and the Book Committee, shall provide for the publication of Sunday-school books and periodicals, and have general supervision of the Sunday-school interests of the Church.

Ans. 10. Let every Sunday-school, so far as practicable, be organized into a missionary society, auxiliary to the Board of Missions.

JAMES H. CARLISLE, Chairman.

On motion of E. R. Hendrix, the existing Sunday-school Committee was reappointed.

B. Craven submitted the following report, which was adopted:

The committee on *Quarterly Review* have completed satisfactory arrangements for the publication of the *Review*, and have elected the Rev. J. W. Hinton, of the South Georgia Conference, Editor for the next four years.

Respectfully submitted.

B. CRAVEN, Chairman.

C. W. Miller and Bishop A. W. Wilson presented their resignations as members of the Committee on the *Quarterly Review*, and J. H. Carlisle and J. W. Tucker were appointed in their places.

S. Rodgers, Chairman, presented Report No. 13 of the Committee on Itinerancy, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY, REPORT NO. 13.

West Texas Conference Journal.—The Journal of this Conference has been well kept in the main, and it is evident that the Secretary has spared no pains to secure a perfect record. In justice, however, to others who had been criticised, we note a few errors. During the ses-

sion of 1878, "the hour of adjournment arrived," as stated in the Journal, but afterward several items of business were attended to without any previous motion to extend the time. Under question 20, same session, H. A. Thrall is called, and read his report, but some other business interrupted, and it is nowhere stated that his character passed.

In several cases under question 20, persons are elected to deacon's orders, and admitted into full connection; also under same question persons are elected to elder's orders. In several cases the record is continuous, without spacing or paragraphing different subjects, and the questions are written afterward on the margin.

Page 43 states that the question, "Are there any appeals?" was called, which is at least unusual.

On page 94 an investigating committee reports a trial necessary, and offers charges, but they are nowhere recorded, nor is there any record of the appointment of a committee, though a committee was appointed, for in the appendix the committee report that they find the "evidence sustains the specifications, and the specifications sustain the charges," but neither charges nor specifications are to be found.

SAMUEL RODGERS, Chairman.

The following announcements were made, by their respective delegations, of the election of editors of papers published in the interest of the Church, viz.:

W. H. Potter, Editor of the *Wesleyan Christian Advocate*.

Samuel A. Weber, Editor of the *Southern Christian Advocate*.

J. W. Christian, Editor of the *Alabama Christian Advocate*.

Zephaniah Meek, Editor of the *Central Methodist*.

W.S. Black and F. L. Reid, Editors of the *Raleigh Christian Advocate*.

Frank Richardson, Editor of the *Holston Methodist*.

I. G. John, Editor of the *Texas Christian Advocate*.

D. R. McAnally, Editor of the *St. Louis Christian Advocate*.

The Conference then adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Pierce.

Wednesday Evening, May 24, 1882.

The Conference met at 8 o'clock P.M., Bishop Keener in the chair. Divine service was conducted by S. B. Jones.

The Minutes of the afternoon session were read and approved.

On motion of E. R. Hendrix, the name of W. M. Leftwich was substituted for W. M. McCarthy on the Sunday-school Committee, and the committee was announced as follows: N. T. Lupton, J. H. Carlisle, T. J. Magruder, J. P. McFerrin, and W. M. Leftwich.

Report No. 3 of the Committee on Revisal was taken from the table, and J. B. McFerrin moved to amend the report by inserting the prefix "non," so that the recommendation is non-concurred in. The motion did not prevail.

The first item was adopted.

The second item was not adopted, but after discussion, in which several members participated, on motion of W. W. Duncan, the report was indefinitely postponed.

The report of the Committee on the Centenary of Methodism was taken from the table and adopted, as follows :

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CENTENARY OF METHODISM.

Your committee to whom was referred that part of the Bishops' Address respecting the Centenary of American Methodism, and also a paper from leading ministers and laymen of the Methodist Episcopal Church on the joint celebration of that event in the city of Baltimore, in December, 1884, after carefully considering the same, submit the following report :

The religious movement called Methodism, which by the middle of the eighteenth century had spread over England, soon followed English-speaking people to the remote colonies, and by 1766 was introduced into America by the zeal of Barbara Heck and the faithful preaching of Philip Embury and Captain Webb. Three years later the movement had taken so kindly to American soil that in response to Mr. Wesley's call at the British Conference, "Who will go to the help of our brethren in America?" Richard Boardman and Joseph Pilmoor offered their services, and were promptly aided in coming by the liberality of their brethren in the Conference. A few years later, Mr. Wesley himself was urged to come, but, unable to do so, he sent Francis Asbury, a man the most like Wesley in executive power, untiring labors, and consuming zeal, ever given to the Church. Appointed Superintendent in 1772, he soon introduced the plans of work which had been successfully tested in England, and put the impress of his organizing mind on the infant Societies. In the absence of ordained preachers, the people were dependent on the English clergy for the sacraments. The Revolutionary War causing the return of most of these, it was necessary to organize the "few sheep in the wilderness" into a Church of their own, where not only the word of God might be preached, but the sacraments duly administered. Of the eighty-three traveling preachers in the New World, sixty were assembled at the memorable Christmas Conference in the city of Baltimore, in De-

cember, 1784, to welcome Thomas Coke, LL.D., recently set apart and ordained by Mr. Wesley to the office of Superintendent or Bishop of the Methodist Societies in America. He and Francis Asbury were chosen to this high office by the voice of the Conference, and twelve faithful men were elected and ordained elders. At this time, with the adoption of our Articles of Religion and the general system of discipline which has since governed us, the scattered Societies became a fully organized Church. We thus antedated by some five years the organization of the constitutional government of the country, and in 1789 the Methodist Episcopal Church, through their Bishops, presented a congratulatory address to President Washington, on his assuming the duties of his office.

Thus, in the providence of God, Methodism took an organic shape in a land peculiarly favorable to its growth, until within less than a hundred years our eighty-three traveling preachers have become more than twenty-seven thousand, and her few hundred members over four million. This numerical showing is in keeping with her moral and religious influence in the New World. What with the extent and character of her periodical literature, her institutions crowded by the youth of the land, the thousands annually converted at her altars, and the countless multitudes who attend upon her service, Methodism is an incalculable power in the land of her adoption. Her responsibility to God and man is augmented in like proportion. At the General Conference of 1878 action was first taken looking to "a Conference of Methodists in the United States and Canada, and other parts of the Continent of America, to be held in the city of Baltimore at Christmas in 1884," and the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, were "requested, in behalf of the Conference, to open a correspondence on this subject with the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Presidents of the several Canadian Conferences, and of all other Methodist bodies on this continent." In view of the action already taken, we submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That in grateful acknowledgment of God's signal mercies and of our increased prosperity and responsibility, we will endeavor, during the year 1884, to raise the sum of two million dollars, to be applied equally to the cause of education, Church extension, and foreign missions, save where donors shall give special direction to their gifts, under the supervision of a committee hereinafter named.

2. That a committee consisting of twelve ministers and twelve laymen, to be appointed by the Bishops, shall, together with the Bishops, be charged with the duty of collecting and administering all funds

collected for Connectional objects, and that such committee make its report to the General Conference in 1886.

3. That such committee be authorized to organize sub-committees in every Annual Conference, who, jointly with these, may aid in collecting funds for both local and Connectional objects, and who shall report to the central committee as above constituted all amounts raised for the payment of Church-debts, the erection of churches and parsonages, and all other local objects or needs as for Connectional objects.

4. That the committee above provided for shall represent us in all correspondence respecting the Conference to be held in Baltimore in December, 1884, and that our Bishops be, and are hereby, authorized to appoint all necessary representatives from our Church to such Conferences.

Respectfully submitted. E. R. HENDRIX, J. S. KEY,
J. C. GRANBERY, E. B. PRETTYMAN,
R. W. JONES.

Report No. 4 of the Committee on Episcopacy was taken from the table and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, REPORT NO. 4.

The committee, having considered various papers referred by the Conference, bearing on the General Superintendents and their work, beg leave to present the following results:

1. A paper, signed J. B. McFerrin, proposing a change in the Discipline, making the Presiding Elder President of the District Conference. The committee is of opinion that the proposed change should not be made.

2. A paper signed by John E. Edwards and P. A. Peterson, asking that a "definite mode be pursued by the Bishops in the examination of the character of the elders in an Annual Conference, so as to secure uniformity of administration under question 20." In reference to this matter the committee judge that no legislation is advisable.

3. A paper, signed by C. E. Dowman and F. Pasco, requesting that the Bishops revise the Course of Study for traveling preachers, and also that they be requested to prepare a post-graduate course of study for such of our preachers as desire further direction in their reading. The committee is of the opinion that the Bishops should be so requested, and so recommend to the Conference.

4. After full discussion of the question of Episcopal residences, the committee recommend that "the Bishops should be distributed by the

College of Bishops in such manner, if practicable, that every great section of our work may have a Bishop residing in some one of the Conferences embraced in said section."

Respectfully submitted. W. W. BENNETT, Chairman.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Education was taken from the table, amended, and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, REPORT NO. 2.

The committee have carefully considered the papers signed by W. F. Cook, W. H. Potter, A. G. Haygood, W. C. Doub, and Theo. Turnbull, and submit the following report.

We recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the method of proceeding in an Annual Conference, under question 6, Section II., Chapter II., page 47, questions 30 and 31 be numbered 31 and 32 respectively, and the following be inserted as question 30: "What are the educational statistics?"

We recommend the insertion of the words, "schools, colleges, and universities," after the word "Churches," in line 6, page 118, and that the sentence be amended so as to read: "Trustees of our parsonages, churches, schools, colleges, and universities, must be at least twenty-one years of age, and must all be members of our Church—when proper persons can be had—otherwise, one-third of each board may be elected from without."

In the proposition relating to the appointment of Boards of Trustees for our institutions of learning (in the absence of charters of incorporation) by Quarterly, District, and Annual Conferences, the committee recommend non-concurrence.

Respectfully submitted. W. P. HARRISON, Chairman.

W. F. Cook, Secretary.

The Conference then adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Kavanaugh.

Thursday Morning, May 25, 1882.

Conference met at 8:30 A.M., Bishop Keener in the chair.

Divine service was conducted by T. S. Wade.

The Minutes of last night's session were read and approved.

Bishop Wilson took the chair.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, Rule 12 was so amended as to limit speakers to five minutes.

E. A. Yates moved that when we adjourn this morning we adjourn *sine die*. The motion did not prevail.

Report No. 4 of the Committee on Revisal was taken from the table.

Item 1 was read, and a minority report on the same subject was read.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, the minority report was laid on the table, and item 1 was adopted.

Item 2 was read, and, on motion, the word "non" was stricken out, so that the recommendation was "we concur," and the item, so amended, was adopted.

Items 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 were adopted.

Item 10 was read, and B. F. Alexander moved an amendment, which did not prevail, after which the item was adopted.

Item 11 was adopted.

Item 12 was read, and H. H. Parks moved to strike out "non," so as to make it "concur," but the motion did not prevail. The item was then adopted.

Item 13 was read, and M. S. Andrews moved to lay it on the table, which motion prevailed.

Item 14 was read, and, on motion of W. M. Rush, it was laid on the table.

Item 15 was read, and, on motion of N. H. D. Wilson, it was laid on the table.

Item 16 was adopted, and the report, as amended, was then adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, REPORT NO. 4.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to present the following report:

1. Having considered a paper by H. Jewell, E. N. Watson, and W. H. Browning; one by T. L. Boswell and Guilford Jones; one by W. W. Duncan; and a memorial from Shelbyville District Conference, Kentucky Conference, asking that the business of licensing local preachers, and of recommending them to the Annual Conference for admission on trial into the traveling connection and for orders, be transferred to the District Conference, recommend non-concurrence.

2. H. H. Parks, P. Gallagher, B. M. Messick, and H. J. Adams, ask that certain paragraphs relating to the rise of the United Societies in Europe and America, printed as the introduction in editions of the Discipline published prior to the General Conference of 1866 be restored. We recommend concurrence.

3. J. B. McGehee and W. T. Greene ask that the election of dele-

gates to the District and Annual Conferences be made quadrennial instead of annual. We recommend non-concurrence.

4. S. W. Turner asks that candidates for orders in the local relation, and for admission on trial into the traveling connection, pass an examination before the Presiding Elder and the preacher in charge, instead of being examined by the Quarterly Conference. We recommend non-concurrence.

5. J. E. Edwards and J. D. Blackwell ask that the law requiring the General Rules to be read at least once a year in each congregation be repealed, and that the question relating to the General Rules, contained in the order of business in Quarterly Conferences, be stricken out. We recommend non-concurrence.

6. T. C. Wier and others ask that the President elected to preside over an Annual Conference be empowered to perform all the duties of a Bishop for the time being. We recommend non-concurrence.

7. T. W. Dye, R. W. Jones, and others, ask that preachers received on trial into the traveling connection may be thereby rendered eligible to deacon's orders. We recommend non-concurrence.

8. J. S. Kennedy and T. P. Summers ask that the clerical and lay members of District and Annual Conferences may be permitted to vote together in the election of delegates to the Annual and General Conferences. We recommend non-concurrence.

9. D. C. Kelley, Thomas B. Holt, G. G. Dibrell, and R. H. Pickering, ask that the lay members of the Joint Board of Finance may be made *ex officio* members of the Annual Conference. We recommend non-concurrence.

10. B. F. Alexander and P. P. Ellis ask that local preachers may not be required to pass in examination of character before, and to obtain the approbation of the Annual Conference, to secure deacon's orders. We recommend non-concurrence.

11. A resolution, without signature, asks for a change in the law relating to general class-meetings, so as to require the preacher in charge to hold them monthly. We recommend non-concurrence.

12. A memorial from the North Georgia Conference asks that the word "approved," in the third line of Answer 2, Question 1, Chapter III., Section VI., of the Discipline, be stricken out, so as not to make it necessary that the examination of a candidate for admission into the traveling connection, on trial, shall be approved by the committee before the vote be taken on his admission. We recommend non-concurrence.

13. A resolution of H. C. Morrison, John A. Carter, and H. C. Set-

tle, asks that paragraph 2, Section I., Chapter VIII., page 169 of the Discipline, relating to the estimating of salary and traveling expenses of preachers be amended; and the committee recommend the following change: Add after the word "steward," in said paragraph 2, this clause, "After consultation with the preacher in charge," so that the paragraph as amended shall read thus: "The salary and traveling expenses of preachers on circuits and stations shall be estimated by their respective boards of stewards, after consultation with the preacher in charge."

P. A. PETERSON, Chairman.

H. V. PHILPOTT, Secretary.

Report No. 4 of the Committee on Temperance was taken from the table, and considered.

The minority report accompanying the report of the majority of the committee, was read, and R. H. Mahon moved to substitute the minority for the majority report, but the motion did not prevail.

N. T. Lupton moved to postpone indefinitely Report No. 4 of the Committee on Temperance.

C. I. Vandeventer called for the ayes and noes, and they were ordered by the Conference.

The roll of members was called, and on the motion to postpone the report indefinitely the vote was as follows:

Ayes—M. S. Andrews, S. Rodgers, W. P. Harrison, J. B. A. Ahrens, E. E. Wiley, J. B. Hoyle, G. H. Hayes, H. C. Settle, Guilford Jones, R. H. Mahon, A. G. Hawkins, J. D. Shaw, Horace Bishop, A. M. Shipp, Horace Jewell, C. W. Carter, W. H. Foster, W. H. Potter, A. G. Haygood, H. H. Parks, C. D. McCutchen, W. A. Turner, R. M. McIntosh, W. H. Hughes, J. B. McFerrin, D. C. Kelley, J. B. West, J. W. Hanner, Jordan Stokes, James Whitworth, N. T. Lupton, B. D. Orgain, R. N. Sledd, J. E. Edwards, J. D. Blackwell, W. W. Walker, George M. Bain, T. B. Hamlin. 38.

Noes—R. B. Crawford, W. A. McCarty, T. F. Mangum, S. H. Dent, B. H. Greathouse, Frank Parke, J. W. Jones, John S. Martin, Jesse B. Wilson, J. C. Dice, J. W. Carnes, W. W. Davis, C. E. Dowman, F. Pasco, J. W. Tucker, T. Turnbull, J. S. Kennedy, W. G. E. Cunningham, J. M. McTeer, J. W. Paulett, T. P. Summers, W. W. Bays, E. W. Moore, C. C. Mayhew, Samuel Carpenter, H. P. Walker, J. W. Fitch, W. H. Browning, W. S. Jeter, B. F. Alexander, A. S. Helmick, A. C. Mitchell, B. M. Messick, H. C. Morrison, G. R. Browder, John A. Carter, R. T. Haley, T. L. Boswell, W. C. Johnson, W. L. C. Hunnicutt, C. B. Galloway, S. B. Watts, W. M. Rush, E. R. Hendrix, E. K. Miller, B. H. Spencer, C. I. Vandeventer, J. D. Vincil, P. P. Ellis,

L. B. Stateler, Anson West, J. B. Stevenson, L. M. Wilson, N. H. D. Wilson, B. Craven, L. S. Burkhead, H. T. Hudson, E. A. Yates, J. Boring, W. F. Cook, J. E. Evans, H. J. Adams, T. C. Wier, H. W. Foote, G. D. Shands, W. P. Barton, M. H. Neely, J. W. Fulton, C. E. Brown, A. Davis, O. P. Fitzgerald, S. B. Jones, W. W. Duncan, O. A. Darby, James H. Carlisle, J. W. Hinton, J. S. Key, J. B. McGehee, E. M. Butt, M. M. Pugh, C. C. Wood, T. M. Cobb, D. R. McAnally, W. V. Tudor, R. A. Young, William Burr, J. D. Barbee, H. V. Philpott, I. G. John, W. W. Bennett, P. A. Peterson, R. Pollard, R. Irby, E. P. Wilson, H. D. Hogan, F. B. Carroll, T. S. Wade, J. E. Stewart, A. H. Sutherland, Josephus Anderson, John H. Dye. 101.

So the motion to postpone indefinitely did not prevail.

The Report of the Committee on Temperance was then adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE, REPORT NO. 4.

Your committee, to whom were referred divers papers asking for a chapter on Temperance to be placed in the Discipline, would report that they have had these papers under very patient and careful consideration, and beg leave to present the following chapter to be placed in our Book of Discipline:

Question. What shall be done for the extirpation of the great evil of intemperance?

Answer 1. Let all our preachers and members faithfully observe our General Rule which forbids "drunkenness or drinking spirituous liquors, unless in cases of necessity."

Ans. 2. In cases of drunkenness let the Discipline be administered as in case of immorality; drunkenness being a crime expressly forbidden in the word of God. In cases of drinking, except in cases of necessity, let the Discipline be administered as in case of imprudent or improper conduct.

Ans. 3. Let all our preachers and members abstain from the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage, and if any shall engage in such manufacture or sale, in such case proceed as in cases of imprudent and improper conduct.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Finance was taken from the table, and considered.

The report of a minority of the committee was read, and, after some discussion, it was substituted for Report No. 2, and adopted, as follows:

MINORITY REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

To the Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South:

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—We, a minority of the Committee on Finance, beg leave to submit the following report:

We have had before us a memorial from the Russellville Quarterly Conference of the Morrillton District, Arkansas Annual Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, asking that the sum of one thousand dollars, bequeathed to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, by Mrs. Mary N. Toby, be applied to the Russellville Charge; and whereas it appears from the memorial and papers accompanying it that "it is the judgment of the public generally, and is stated by the most intimate friends and relatives of the deceased, among whom is the Rev. W. J. Dodson, who was her pastor for four years immediately preceding her death, during which time he lived one year in her family, that it was the will of the deceased that it should be so applied:" therefore,

Resolved, That the request in the memorial be granted, and that the General Conference appoint some one to collect the money, and pay it over to the local Board of Trustees of the Russellville Charge.

B. H. GREATHOUSE,

C. A. GANTT.

Nashville, May 10, 1882.

B. H. Greathouse nominated J. F. Munday, of Russellville, as agent to collect and apply the money named in the bequest referred to in the foregoing report.

Report No. 4 of the Committee on Finance was taken from the table and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, REPORT NO. 4.

Your committee, to whom was referred the paper of W. S. Black, being the resolutions passed by the Quarterly Conference of Washington Station, North Carolina Conference, asking that the following words, "but in no case shall they allow any preacher to have a claim on the Church he has served as of debt, after his pastoral connection has ceased" (Chapter IX., Section V., page 178 Discipline), be stricken out, have carefully considered the same, and recommend non-concurrence.

P. P. ELLIS, Chairman.

Report No. 3 of the Committee on Education was taken from the table and considered.

W. W. Bennett offered a substitute, creating a General Conference

Board of Education, and providing for special collections in the various charges for the purposes of education.

On motion of J. E. Edwards, the Conference resolved to hold an afternoon session, beginning at 3 o'clock P.M.

The vote was then taken on the substitute of W. W. Bennett, and it was not adopted.

The vote was then taken on the report, and it was adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, REPORT NO. 3.

Your committee have carefully considered the paper referred to them, and signed by J. D. Shaw and D. H. Snyder; also one signed by W. F. Cook, C. W. Carter, and A. B. Stark; and beg leave to report:

We recommend that in Chapter II., Section II., question 8, answer 1, page 50, line 8 from the bottom of the page, after the word "Conference" these words be inserted, "Organize a Conference Board of Education," so that the paragraph will read: "Answer 1. Let every Annual Conference organize a Conference Board of Education; inquire into the state and character of all the institutions of learning that may be under its care, and the best means of promoting their interest, and, if necessary, of increasing their number."

We recommend that in Chapter III., Section IV., answer 16, page 83, the following words be inserted, "To preach upon the subject of Education," so that Answer 16 shall read: "To preach upon the subject of Christian education, and to urge upon parents the importance of educating their children, advising them to patronize, as far as practicable, those institutions of learning under the care of our Church."

After a long and patient examination of all propositions relating to the subject, the committee deem it inexpedient to organize a General Conference Board of Education at the present time.

Respectfully submitted.

W. P. HARRISON, Chairman.

W. F. Cook, Secretary.

The time of the morning session was extended in order to select the place for the meeting of the next General Conference.

Jordan Stokes nominated Nashville, Tenn., and P. A. Peterson nominated Richmond, Va.

Richmond, Va., was selected.

The Conference then adjourned, with the benediction by Bishop Wilson.

Thursday Afternoon, May 25, 1882.

The Conference met at 3 o'clock P.M., Bishop Wilson in the chair. Divine service was conducted by W. W. Duncan.

The Minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Bishop Parker took the chair.

W. H. Potter moved that this General Conference adjourn without a day at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

J. E. Evans moved to amend by substituting 10 o'clock to-night for 5 o'clock this afternoon.

The motion did not prevail.

It was moved to substitute 6 for 5 o'clock, and the motion prevailed.

A. M. Shipp, Chairman, presented Report No. 10 of the Committee on Fraternal Correspondence, which was read and adopted, as follows:

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE, REPORT NO. 10.

Your Committee on Fraternal Correspondence offer for adoption the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to convey the Christian salutations of the General Conference to the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, now in session at Huntsville, Ala.

A. M. SHIPP, Chairman.

P. P. Ellis offered, and the Conference adopted, the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Conference are eminently due and are hereby heartily tendered to the Secretaries, Drs. John S. Martin, J. D. Vincil, W. M. Leftwich, B. Craven, J. A. Thompson, J. J. Tigert, and F. Pasco, for their patient, diligent, laborious, and faithful services during this Conference session.

P. P. ELLIS,

C. I. VANDEVENTER,

JOHN W. PAULETT.

N. H. D. Wilson moved to suspend the rules and take from the table Report No. 10 of the Committee on Revisal, referring to local preachers.

The motion did not prevail.

By consent, Report No. 8 was substituted for No. 5 of the Committee on Revisal, and considered at length.

W. W. Bennett moved the indefinite postponement of the whole subject of the report, the question being the change of the name of the Church.

The Chair decided that the motion to postpone indefinitely was not debatable.

G. Thornburg appealed from the decision of the Chair, and the appeal was sustained.

After discussion, the motion to postpone indefinitely was lost.

O. R. Blue and J. B. McFerrin offered a substitute for the report of the committee, and it was adopted, as follows, the vote being ayes 105, noes 40:

Resolved, That the matter of changing the name of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to the Methodist Episcopal Church in America, be referred to the several Annual Conferences by the Bishops, during the ensuing four years, and that they report the result of the vote to the General Conference of 1886 for ratification.

Bishop McTyeire took the chair.

The Secretary requested, and obtained, permission to leave the Journal and papers of the General Conference with the Assistant Secretaries, W. M. Leftwich and J. J. Tigert, for the use of the Book Editor, W. P. Harrison, the Book Agent, J. B. McFerrin, and for reference by the Missionary Secretary, the Board of Missions, and the Sunday-school Editor and Sunday-school Committee.

The Minutes of the afternoon session were read and confirmed.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, hymn 278, "And let our bodies part," was announced by the Bishop presiding, and after it was sung, D. R. McAnally led in prayer.

Bishop McTyeire then pronounced the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, adjourned *sine die*, to be succeeded by another General Conference composed of an equal number of clerical and lay delegates, to be elected according to law, to meet in Richmond, Va., on the first Wednesday in May, 1886.

The doxology was sung, and the benediction pronounced by Bishop Pierce.

ROBERT PAINE,

HUBBARD H. KAVANAUGH,

JOHN C. KEENER,

LINUS PARKER,

GEORGE F. PIERCE,

HOLLAND N. MCTYEIRE,

ALPHEUS W. WILSON,

JOHN C. GRANBERY,

ROBERT K. HARGROVE.

JOHN S. MARTIN, *Secretary*.

JOHN D. VINCIL,

W. M. LEFTWICH,

JOHN J. TIGERT,

} *Assistant Secretaries.*

APPENDIX.

THE following is the Address presented to the Conference in behalf of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America :

To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, now at Nashville, Tenn., in session assembled.

DEAR BISHOPS AND BRETHREN:—Whereas we feel that relation which we should feel toward you, who have set us apart a separate and distinct organized body of Methodists, being to you only as a child to its parent, we make bold to come to you with this our petition, hoping sincerely that our cry will not be in vain, and that you do consider this our petition, not only because we are of you, but because of the great necessity that impels us to this request. For be you assured that did we not feel deeply the great need we ask, and did we not believe that you would grant us a kindly hearing, we should decline sending you this petition.

While we have no cause to complain of the success we have met with, considering the disadvantages under which we labor, yet we have many impediments to greater success—the accomplishment of more good—which cannot be removed by us without some pecuniary aid in our educational and missionary fields; and whereas we feel the great need of educational advantages in our Church, seeing the great majority of our membership are devoting their attention and means to the education of their children in schools of other denominations; and whereas Romanism in her hideous form is opening to our young people an avenue into her associations by this means; and whereas we can do but little of ourselves to save our young people from these things, without institutions of learning; therefore, it was resolved by the General Conference of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, now in session in Washington, D. C., to place before your Christian body this petition, asking you as dear fathers to aid us in the erection of school-buildings for the purpose of furnishing our membership with a suitable place to acquire an education under our supervision.

We have done something the past year to establish a school at Jackson, Tenn., and also at Byhalia, Miss., having purchased the grounds preparatory to building thereon.

We find our people willing and ready to aid us, but owing to failures in crops the two years past, and the late overflow of our districts along the Mississippi River, they will be unable to do much for us the present year. We therefore come to you who know the value of an educated ministry, and who know our wants as well, if not better, and we respectfully ask that your ecclesiastical body do consider some plan whereby we may receive some aid in this direction.

Whereas we find a growing tendency in all parts of the Southern States among

our people to become identified with us and of us; and whereas we wish to enter the cities which are crying for us to come thither, but having no means for either erecting places of worship or of sustaining ministers while engaged in missionary work; and whereas we feel that our interests are suffering for want of mission money; and whereas our people are comparatively unable to do any thing, though they have given as liberally as possible of their scanty means, and we have accomplished much good with the small amount contributed; and whereas we feel the need of mission money to be one among our greatest needs; therefore, we would respectfully request you to do any thing which in your godly judgment would aid us in the spread of our work, and build up Churches in places, where we at present have only small but active missions, as at New Orleans, La., Atlanta, Ga., Corinth, Miss., and many other places.

Respectfully submitted.

BISHOP ISAAC LANE,
A. J. STINSON,
W. T. THOMAS.

Washington, D. C., May 10, 1882.

The action of the General Conference in regard to the educational wants of the colored people will be found in Report No. 1 of the Committee on Education, p. 100.

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH.

Letter from Bishop Hood to the General Conference.

To the Bishops and Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—Having been appointed to bear the fraternal greetings of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church to your venerable body, I exceedingly regret my inability to be present in person. I therefore take this method to fulfill in part what is expected of me by those I represent.

There are special reasons why there should be a friendly feeling between your Church and ours. Prominent among these is the fact that we occupy a relation toward your Church that we occupy toward no other under the sun. We occupy the same field with you without rivalry. There exist no grounds for antagonism, for God himself seems to have appointed our bounds and fixed the limits of our operations. The great body (at least nine-tenths) of our Church is in the South. Circumstances over which we have no control have drawn a line between the two races, in all their social relations, as marked and distinct as the nose upon a man's face. It is not a line of hate, or dread of contact, but a line sanctioned by custom till it has all the force of law. This social line has made the African Church a necessity. Possibly we have more branches of that Church than we need, but, until we can see our way clear to unite in one, we shall have to continue to imitate our white brethren, each branch using our best efforts to spread the Redeemer's kingdom.

I have remarked that the order of society above mentioned makes the African Church a necessity. This I believe to be providential. God has raised up an effective colored ministry, who could not have been employed without congregations of their own people. The success that has attended their efforts has stamped the arrangement as divine. I will in this connection mention one fact which seems to me to settle the question. In 1862 or 1863, the Methodist Epis-

copal Church sent a missionary to North Carolina. Since that time she has sent several more. She has spent thousands of dollars in supporting her ministers and extending her work, and yet the report to her last Conference shows less than eight thousand members. The American Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, through the most of the above-mentioned period, has had but one Northern man in the field, and has had but little money to spend, and yet we have nearly fifty thousand members. This difference, out of all proportion to the means employed, is not simply the result of extraordinary human effort, but the result of divine power, and the stamp of God's approbation. I do not say that the other work is not his, but I think I may truly say that this is especially his, and indicates that God has raised up the African Church to bless the African race both here and also in the land which gave birth to that race.

But I need not pursue this line of thought farther in addressing you. You have given the world a practical demonstration of your faith in our idea by forming your own colored members into a separate organization, and giving them the necessary outfit for the success of their effort. Indeed, the Methodist Episcopal Church itself, while not going as far as you have gone in recognizing our needs, yet has found it necessary to give her colored ministers Conferences to themselves. Thus, in one way or another, all have recognized the necessity of the African Church. The time may come when one General Conference may legislate for the entire Methodist Episcopal family, when one book of discipline may govern the whole, and when one hymn-book may afford hymns for us all; but, so far as I can see, we shall for a long time need the separate organization. At the same time, our holy religion prompts us to labor for the promotion of fraternity. As I have before remarked, the relations existing between your Church and ours are such as to conduce to that end. We have also noticed that our sentiments respecting the necessity and work of the African Church are of accord. The people to whom you minister, and those to whom we are offering the bread and water of life, though socially separate, yet in all business relations are most closely connected. As you are two hundred and fifty years in advance of us in the enjoyment of the blessings of civil and religious liberty, it is not humiliating on our part to acknowledge that you have advantages that we do not enjoy, and that you are in a position where you can be of more use to us than we can to you. Experience has taught me that our success here largely depends upon the encouragement we receive from the white people. A good word does not cost much, but often does a vast deal of good. Except upon one point, which I need not mention, the colored people look up to the white people for advice, and by the advice and instructions received therefrom their opinions are shaped to a very large degree. This is especially the case as touching the character of colored ministers sent among them. If the white people testify to his intelligence and moral rectitude, his way is easy; but if some white man says, "That nigger won't do," he will have hard work to convince the colored people that he will do. The man thus branded has but two courses left him. One is to quietly work his way for months at a disadvantage, the other is to get upon the stump in time of excitement and appeal to their passions. I am happy to say that in our work here we have generally received encouragement from the ministers you represent. In some cases it has been overflowing. In this connection I wish to express our gratitude and thanks to Bishop McTyeire and others who so kindly indorsed our

appeal to the British people for aid in our effort to erect an institution for the education of our people.

In conclusion, let me assure you that the Church I represent will be ever ready to perform its part in promoting the happiness of the entire Methodist family, and in the spreading of evangelical holiness.

May the great Bishop and Shepherd of souls preside over your deliberations and bless your labors!

I am, with great veneration, yours in gospel bonds,

J. W. HOOD.

Fayetteville, N. C., May 8, 1882.

The following is the letter from the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, referred to on p. 84:

To the Bishops and Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in session in Nashville, Tenn.

Whereas the sad intelligence announcing the death of Dr. T. O. Summers has just been received; and whereas the General Conference of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America, now in session at this place, wishes in some suitable manner to express its sympathy with you in the loss of this great and good man, it was unanimously resolved that a committee of three be appointed to transmit to your honorable and Christian body the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the General Conference of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America do hereby express their regrets at the loss to the Church of which he was a leader, to Methodism everywhere, and to Christian literature generally.

2. That we feel that in his death we have lost a father and friend in the truest sense of the word.

3. That we present to the bereaved family which he leaves our deepest sympathy in this their sad bereavement; and for comfort we can do no more than to recommend them to the great Comforter of those who mourn, and to an emulation of the example set by him for whom they mourn, and whom we believe has passed from labor to reward; and may the mantle which he has so long and honorably worn as an officer of his Church and great *literati* fall upon worthy shoulders!

All of which we respectfully submit.

BISHOP J. A. BEEBE, Chairman,
BISHOP ISAAC LANE,
M. F. JAMISON,
W. T. THOMAS, Secretary,

Committee.

Washington, D. C., May 10, 1882.

The Secretary of the American Colonization Society addressed the following letter to Bishop McTyeire, by whom it was presented to the Conference. The letter was referred to the Committee on Revisal, and Report No. 12 of that committee, on page 119, relates to the subject:

COLONIZATION ROOMS, WASHINGTON, D. C., May 5, 1882.

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR:—I have the honor and pleasure of addressing you, and, through you, the Bishops and also the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, now in session, in behalf of the American Colonization Society, constrained by openings in Western Africa and the movements of the colored race in America to increase its activity. Non-denominational,

non-sectional, and non-political, it has planted in the person and family of our people of color, aided to settle in Africa, at once the germ of American civilization and religion in that vast continent.

Leading men and Churches are giving the Society their hearty coöperation. Knowing your personal good feeling, and the Christian sympathy of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, for the colored population, I earnestly invite your personal and official coöperation in the great work of African colonization.

What is especially sought is such legislation by the General Conference now in session as will invest the Bishops with discretionary authority to appoint itinerant ministers of your Church to agencies for the American Colonization Society, and other missions of usefulness to the colored race.

That the chief pastors of Southern Methodism may be unincumbered in their godly judgment and official acts, and free to supply your proportion of gifted workers in our labor of love, so nearly allied to the glory of the Redeemer and the good of the African race, your kindness in bringing this matter to the early and favorable attention of the General Conference will be gratefully appreciated by the American Colonization Society.

By order of the Executive Committee.

Yours very truly and respectfully,

WILLIAM COPPINGER,
Sec. and Treas. A. C. S.

The following is the substitute for item 3 of Report No. 3 of the Committee on Education. This substitute was presented by W. W. Bennett, and rejected by the Conference. See page 171.

1. For the promotion of the work of Christian education among us, there shall be a Board of Education consisting of six ministers and six laymen, members of our Church, appointed by the General Conference.

2. The object of this Board is to devise and execute measures for promoting the work of Christian education throughout the Church. And in aid of this object the Board shall receive gifts for such general educational purposes as hereinafter named, and securely hold them as hereinafter provided.

3. To promote the objects of this Board, and to direct the minds of our people to its special work, there shall be kept throughout the Church a day to be known as "Children's Day," on which appropriate services shall be held in all our congregations specially for children, and that on such day a collection shall be taken in aid of the work of this Board, to be known as "The Children's Educational Fund." It is recommended that the second Sunday in May of each year be observed as "Children's Day."

4. The Board shall endeavor to secure the establishment of suitable high schools or academies in the different Church Conferences, one for each Presiding Elder's district if possible; and also to induce three or more Annual Conferences to unite in the support of not more than two colleges—unless more are already established—one for the education of young men, and one for the education of young women, and to discourage the increase of colleges beyond the wants of the people and their ability to sustain them.

5. The Board shall use the funds that may be given it in making loans or donations to young men preparing for the ministry, and young men or young women preparing for missionary work as preachers or teachers, and in aiding existing

theological schools and biblical departments in our institutions of learning, and in aiding in their general work existing institutions, and such as may hereafter be established with the approval of the Board: provided that no appropriation of the general funds of the Board shall be made for the purpose of erecting buildings.

6. In order to promote the work of education among us, and to give all our congregations proper information on the subject, it shall be the duty of each preacher in charge to preach once a year at least in each Society upon the subject of Christian education, and to circulate tracts and books on the general subject. He shall also present the claims of an educational work to our members and friends in his regular pastoral intercourse with them, and endeavor to secure donations in aid of this cause. He shall also take an annual collection in every congregation, to be known as the "Educational Collection," which shall be used for the purpose of promoting the work of education within the bounds of the Annual Conference in which it is taken, and to be controlled and applied by the Annual Conference Board of Education.

7. The Board shall organize by the election of such officers as may be necessary to carry out its purposes, and shall obtain such a charter as may be deemed needful for the safe holding of its funds.

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| W. W. BENNETT, | E. E. WILEY, |
| J. L. KENNEDY, | JAMES H. CARLISLE, |
| A. M. SHIPP, | A. G. HAYGOOD, |
| B. CRAVEN, | R. W. JONES. |

The following report was presented, but was not acted upon by the Conference:

COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, REPORT NO. 3.

The committee have had referred to them the following papers:

1. A paper signed by G. Thornburg and D. B. Warren, referring to the use of the Revised Text of the New Testament in our Lesson Papers. Before the introduction of this paper the Editor had expressed his intention to discontinue the publication of the Revised Text. The number of the *Magazine* now in press contains this announcement. We therefore respectfully suggest that no further action is necessary.

2. A paper signed by E. A. Yates and others, recommending that lessons be given on the special doctrines and usages of our Church. Our Bishops have been requested to appoint suitable persons to prepare a series of standard catechisms for our schools. In the meantime we have been glad to learn that in many schools the catechetical exercises appended to the Scripture Lessons by the Editor are used with great advantage to the pupils. We earnestly call attention to this feature, which we hope will soon be introduced in all our schools. We are assured that these portions of our current lessons will receive the special care of the Editor. They are intended to furnish to our schools the specific instruction which will make them intelligent and contented members of the Church in which they are trained.

3. We give the substance of a paper signed by T. J. Magruder and R. W. Jones, containing suggestions on the classification of pupils. It is difficult to give any plan which is applicable to all schools. But the plan here given is worthy of close study by all superintendents, and it may be literally copied in many schools:

There are three classes of pupils in one Sunday-school: 1. The Primary Class; 2. The Intermediate Class; 3. The Bible Class. For these three classes suitable forms of instruction must be provided. We may, for the general purpose of classification, denominate them as follows: 1. The Primary Class may be called the Catechetical Department; 2. The Intermediate Class may be called the Lesson Department; 3. The Bible Class may be called the Biblical Department.

COURSE OF STUDY.

1. Catechetical Department. This department includes two grades: (1) The Infant Class; (2) The Primary Class. For these classes graded catechetical exercises should be prepared on the current lessons.

2. The Lesson Department. This department may include the classes known as the intermediate and advanced classes. For these classes the current Bible-lessons may be used as at present furnished in the Intermediate and Sunday-school Quarterlies.

3. The Biblical Department may include two grades: (1) A Bible class using the most advanced helps on the current lessons; (2) A normal class studying sacred history and geography, the doctrines, discipline, and polity of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, with the best methods of organizing, governing, and teaching a Sunday-school. We need also a graded system of Sunday-school libraries, embracing the text-books and books of reference necessary for advanced classes, and a well-selected miscellaneous catalogue for general reading.

Our periodical literature should be adjusted to these three departments of instruction: 1. Sunday-school magazines for teachers and pupils in Bible classes; 2. Sunday-school quarterlies for intermediate and advanced classes; 3. A monthly paper for superintendents, teachers, and pastors.

A paper signed by A. G. Hankins called the attention of the committee to the want of cheap graded reading for the different classes of Sunday-school scholars. This matter, we learn, is under consideration by the Editor. He is also purposing, at an early day, to issue a catalogue of safe and suitable library books, selected from our own publications, as well as from the publications of other good houses. All these important points, we feel assured, will have the most careful attention of those who may be placed in charge of our Sunday-school interests during the four important years upon which we now enter. The very essential question as to the possibility of cheapening all our Sunday-school literature at an early day is fully appreciated by those in charge of our publishing interests.

We would, with all possible emphasis, urge upon pastors, teachers, and parents the great benefits which will follow from earnest and full conferences and consultations on these great and common interests. We have elsewhere proposed Conference and district conventions. The Convention of Secretaries held in this city one year ago was profitable. Perhaps similar assemblies may be called in the future with like advantage to our Sunday-school interests.

We beg leave to call the attention of every pastor, superintendent, and teacher to the great benefits, direct and indirect, which may flow from weekly teachers' meetings. We have met with striking instances to prove that these may be held even in connection with country schools. Any energy and perseverance which even two or three active teachers may display in using this efficient help will receive a proportionate reward. Let us use all possible means to increase the in-

terest of all our people on all the aggressive agencies which the great work before us demands. When-General Conferences and all the public men of our Church have done their utmost, there remains much, very much, for the men and women of our growing Communion to do in the way of personal service. Let us all thank God, and take courage.

Your committee feel it to be at once a duty and a privilege to bear their official testimony to the untiring fidelity of the Sunday-school Editor. They heartily commend him and his growing work to the confidence, active sympathy, and prayers of the Church he has served so faithfully.

JAMES H. CARLISLE, Chairman.

R. W. JONES, Secretary.

REPORT OF SUNDAY-SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The committee appointed by the General Conference of 1878 presented the following report through the chairman, Professor Lupton:

The following report of the Sunday-school Committee, appointed by the last General Conference to coöperate with the Sunday-school Editor and the Book Agent in providing "for the publication of Sunday-school books and periodicals," and in "the general supervision of our Sunday-school interests, with power to appoint a Secretary if it is deemed necessary," is respectfully submitted.

The committee, in the discharge of their duties, have endeavored to aid the Sunday-school Editor in every practicable way in advancing the important interests committed to their care, and they are happy to state that the past *quadrennium* has been one of decided progress. The best evidences of this are seen in the improved character of our publications, their greatly increased circulation, and almost universal introduction into our schools, as well as in the general favor with which they are received, not only by our own people, but by all who are interested in Sunday-school work. The number of Sunday-schools has increased from 7,262 in 1878 to 9,310 in 1881; teachers in 1878, 54,867, to 62,442 in 1881; scholars in 1878, 391,293, to 462,321 in 1881—making an aggregate increase in our Sunday-school population in four years of 78,603.

While these figures indicate a healthy growth in this department, the number of children in our Sunday-schools does not equal, as we believe it should, our Church-membership—the disparity is considerably less than it was four years ago, and we hope will be still less at the end of the next *quadrennium*.

The circulation of our Sunday-school periodicals has increased from an aggregate of two hundred and fifty thousand monthly issues in 1878 to a maximum circulation of over four hundred thousand. This increased circulation has enabled the Publishing House to reduce the price of these publications, and thus increase their usefulness by bringing them within the reach of a constantly widening circle of readers. A few of our schools, we regret to say, use other literature than our own, but the number has greatly diminished within the last four years.

Your committee have not deemed it advisable to exercise the authority committed to them of appointing a Secretary, believing that the necessity has not been sufficiently imperative to demand such a step. At the suggestion of the committee, however, a small sum has been placed at the disposal of the Sunday-school Editor by the Book Committee, to be used in securing such editorial assistance as he might deem necessary.

Your committee, impressed with the growing magnitude of the work devolving upon the Sunday-school Editor, the difficulty of any one man discharging all its varied duties, and the increasing danger to which this vital interest of the Church is exposed, in view of the possibility of the Editor becoming suddenly disabled, through sickness or other cause, would respectfully suggest that the time has come for the appointment of at least one assistant, who shall be subordinate to the Editor, and under his control. Should such assistance be deemed advisable by the General Conference, your committee would suggest that the appointment be made by the Sunday-school Committee, in connection with the Sunday-school Editor and the Book Agent, leaving the Book Committee to fix the compensation.

While your committee, according to the action of the General Conference, was clothed with the power to appoint a Secretary, if it is deemed necessary, they had no control of funds with which to compensate such an officer for his work. Sympathizing with the Book Committee in their efforts to rescue the Publishing House from the incubus of debt which pressed so heavily upon it, and rejoicing in their success, your committee have thus far refrained from asking for an appropriation of any portion of the profits on Sunday-school publications for the employment of a Secretary. The time, however, we think, has come for an advance movement in this direction.

In May, 1881, a Convention of Conference Secretaries was called to meet in Nashville, in connection with the Sunday-school Committee, to discuss the general interests of our Sunday-school, and to devise such plans as in their judgment would promote this important department of Church-work. Nineteen Secretaries from various parts of the Connection assembled, and held a profitable and harmonious session. A number of recommendations were made by this Convention, which the Sunday-school Editor will submit to the General Conference for its consideration. The meeting of the Conference Secretaries was productive of much good. The zeal of brethren was quickened by an interchange of views, harmony was promoted, and a general forward movement was inaugurated. The results have been highly satisfactory.

In conclusion, your committee would express their satisfaction at the decided improvement in every department of our Sunday-school work which characterizes its history for the past four years. Our people have kept pace with the general advancement in the Sunday-school world, and we believe the children and young people of our Church are more carefully instructed in the word of God to-day than at any period in our history. We thank God for the grace which has enabled his people to do so much for the children of this generation, and we look hopefully to the future when a glorious harvest will be garnered from this sowing. May he continue to bless our Sunday-school work!

Respectfully submitted.

N. T. LUPTON, JAMES H. CARLISLE,
T. J. MAGRUDER, WILLIAM M. MCCARTHY,
JOHN P. MCFERRIN.

COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES.

Report No. 5 of this committee was presented May 20 (see page 116), but was not taken from the table. It is as follows:

Your committee have carefully considered the memorial of L. M. Wilson, John A. Thompson, J. H. Harris, and others, "as to change in boundary line between North Alabama and Alabama Conferences, asking the transfer of certain territory in Alabama Conference to North Alabama Conference," and respectfully recommend non-concurrence.

G. R. BROWDER, Chairman.

L. M. Wilson presented a minority report, which was laid on the table, and never afterward taken up:

MINORITY REPORT.

To the Bishops and Members of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, now assembled in Nashville, Tenn.

We, the undersigned, beg leave to submit the following minority report touching the matter of boundary between the North Alabama Conference and the Alabama Conference, and ask the General Conference to grant the request of the delegates of the North Alabama Conference as presented in their memorial, as follows:

Commencing at a point on the west bank of the Coosa River, opposite to where the present boundary between the Alabama and the North Alabama Conferences touches the said river on the east side, and running thence with the southern boundary of Chilton county to the south-west corner of said county, and thence on the same parallel of latitude west to the Mississippi line, for the following reasons:

1. Because in the organization of the North Alabama Conference, twelve years ago, there was not a fair and equitable division of the territory. Alabama is composed of sixty-six counties. In the division, the North Alabama Conference got only twenty-seven counties, while the Alabama Conference got thirty-nine, and all West Florida, except Apalachicola.

2. Because in the division the Alabama Conference got not only the advantage in the quantity of territory, but in quality—retaining eight first-class stations and eleven second-class stations, and strong circuits covering the rich cotton-belt of Alabama, while the North Alabama Conference had but two first-class stations at the time of division (and only three now), and seven second-class stations, and circuits and missions covering rocks, hills, and mountains, with a few fertile valleys.

3. Because at the time of the organization of the North Alabama Conference the territory embraced within its bounds had no clerical representation in the General Conference, that remained after the organization, and only two laymen, and these were overshadowed by the towering influence of those that represented the interests of the Alabama Conference.

4. Because the change contemplated would give each Conference squareness and compactness of shape, and tend greatly to give permanency to boundaries hereafter.

5. Because the change would throw the Southern University on, or near, the line, and this, it is thought, would have the effect to unify the two Conferences in feelings of interest for this institution.

L. M. WILSON,

J. SHACKELFORD,

W. T. HARRIS.

The following report was presented on May 12, and laid on the table, under the rule. On May 24 it was taken up and adopted, but the Journal contains no record of its adoption. The Book Editor did not discover the omission in the MS. of the Journal until it was too late to put the report in its proper place:

COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES, REPORT NO. 3.

Your committee have duly considered the memorial as to change of boundary line between Tennessee and Holston Conferences, and recommend the following:

The boundary line between the Tennessee and Holston Conferences shall be as follows: Beginning on the Alabama State line, where Marion and Franklin counties, Tennessee, join, thence northward with the western boundary line of the counties of Marion, Sequatchie, Bledsoe, Cumberland, and Fentress, to the top of Cumberland Mountains; thence with the top of Cumberland Mountains to the Kentucky line. All east of said line shall be in Holston Conference (except Mont Eagle, in Marion county, and Bethel, in Sequatchie county, which shall be in Tennessee Conference), and all west of said line shall be in Tennessee Conference.

G. R. BROWDER, Chairman.

On May 24 the report was taken from the table, and adopted.

The following report of the Committee on Boundaries was presented May 22, and laid over for further consideration. It does not appear from the Journal that it was taken from the table:

COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES, REPORT NO. 7.

The Committee on Boundaries have considered the petition and memorial from the members of the Rockvale Church, in Burnett county, Texas, asking to be allowed to remain within the bounds of the North-west Texas Conference, and said committee, seeing no good reason for changing their report already made on the same subject, recommend non-concurrence.

G. R. BROWDER, Chairman.

B. D. ORGAIN, Secretary.

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

The following is the minority report offered on May 25 as a substitute for Report No. 4 of the Committee on Temperance. See page 169:

MINORITY REPORT.

A minority of the Committee on Temperance, to whom certain papers asking for changes in our Book of Discipline were referred, respectfully present the following report:

Whereas the General Rule, as it now appears in our Book of Discipline, is in perfect harmony with the teachings of the Holy Scriptures; and as the present rule is amply sufficient, when properly enforced, to secure perfect obedience to the Scripture law of temperance; and believing that all superfluous legislation tends to defeat the object in view, would recommend that no additional legislation is necessary on this subject.

HORACE JEWELL.

Report No. 5 of the Committee on Temperance, presented May 17, was not taken from the table. It is as follows:

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE, REPORT NO. 5.

Your committee to whom was referred a communication from the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of the South to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, having considered the same, would report:

That we rejoice to recognize woman as a co-laborer in the great field of Temperance Reform. The enormous evils of intemperance have fallen chiefly upon woman. Poverty and distress, disease and death, as the dire evils of intemperance, have come to her. Her house desolated, her hopes blighted, her whole life darkened, her heart crushed, she cries for help and deliverance. She ought to be heard, she must be heard, she will be heard. Who that has a mother, or a wife, or a sister, or a daughter, will turn a deaf ear to this cry of woman for help? Hereafter woman and her wrongs must, and will, become an important factor in the great struggle to deliver humanity from the curse of intemperance. We submit the following resolutions for adoption by the General Conference:

Resolved, 1. That we sympathize with the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of the South in the great temperance reformation, and that we will render to them such sympathy and aid as we may be able in this great work.

2. That the Secretary of this General Conference is hereby instructed to furnish the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of the South with a copy of this action.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. M. RUSH, Chairman.

The following paper is referred to in Report No. 3 of the Committee on Finance, page 74:

Whereas it is expected that many liberal-minded members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, will be disposed to make donations, bequests, and devises of money and property, for the use and benefit of superannuated preachers, and the widows and orphans of deceased traveling preachers; and whereas it is important that all such gifts of money and property shall be carefully preserved and securely invested: therefore, be it

Resolved, 1. That this General Conference advise all the Annual Conferences (when practicable) to procure acts of incorporation, to whose officers all donations of money or property, given for the use of superannuated preachers, and the widows and orphans of deceased traveling preachers, shall be delivered, to be preserved for the uses aforesaid.

2. That the trustees of all such incorporations holding such Conference funds be required to coöperate with the Joint Board of Finance of the respective Annual Conferences in the distribution of the interest arising from the funds so invested.

THOMAS SHACKELFORD.

T. D. WOODSON.

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL.

The following report was presented, May 25, by a minority of the committee, as a substitute for a portion of Report No. 4 of the Committee on Revisal. See page 167:

MINORITY REPORT.

The undersigned, a minority of the Committee on Revisal, regret the necessity for submitting a minority report differing from that of the majority on the proposed change in the Discipline asked by your memorialists; but with a firm conviction that the majority report signally fails to meet a felt want and an urgent demand in our Church to-day—viz., an efficiently furnished ministry for every good word and work—we are left with no other alternative. With deference we submit the following for your adoption:

Strike out question 2 and answer of Section I., page 91, which reads: "What shall be the time of probation of a traveling preacher for the office of deacon?" *Answer.* No one shall be so elected and ordained who has not been two years in the regular itinerant work, except such as may be selected by the Bishop for the missionary work, when the Annual Conference shall have authority to elect to the deacon's office sooner, if the Conference judge it expedient: provided that if he has been a local preacher for three years successively, and on trial in the traveling ministry for one year next following, he shall be eligible to the office of a deacon on obtaining the approbation of the Conference." And insert as paragraph 3, Section VII., question 1, page 91; the following words: "When a preacher shall have been examined and recommended by the committee, he shall be eligible to the office of a deacon on obtaining the approbation of the Conference."

Respectfully submitted.

T. W. DYE, JOHN H. DYE,
J. D. BARBEE, S. W. TURNER,
T. S. WADE, J. DITZLER.

The report was laid on the table, and the Majority Report adopted.

A second report from a minority of the committee, relating to Report No. 4, was presented, and laid on the table. It is as follows:

A minority of the Committee on Revisal, who have had under consideration sundry petitions praying for a change in the Discipline, Chapter II., Section IV., on Quarterly Conferences, relegating questions 10, 16, 17, 18 to the District Conference, beg leave to report: That in view of the fact that many of our Quarterly Conferences are composed of but five or six persons, or in many instances of even less; and the hurried manner in which the business of the Quarterly Conferences is necessarily transacted prevents, in many instances, the proper care in the examination of candidates, licensing of preachers, recommending to the Annual Conference for admission on trial into the traveling connection, and for ordination, we recommend that Section III., relating to the District Conference, be so amended as to read as follows:

SECTION III. OF THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE.

Question 1. What directions are given concerning District Conferences?

Answer 1. There shall be held annually in each Presiding Elder's district a District Conference. The time shall be fixed by the Presiding Elder, and the place by the Conference; but should it become necessary, from any unforeseen cause, to change the place, after it has been fixed by the Conference, the Presiding Elder shall have the power to make the change.

2. The District Conference shall be composed of all the preachers in the district, traveling and local, including superannuated preachers (whether resident without or within the limits of the Annual Conferences to which they belong), and of — laymen from each circuit, station, or mission in the district, to be selected by the Quarterly Conferences.

3. A Bishop, or in his absence the Presiding Elder, shall preside; and if both be absent, the Conference may elect a President.

4. The Conference shall elect a Secretary, who shall keep a record of all its proceedings.

5. The regular business of the District Conference shall be:

(1) To inquire into the spiritual state, and the attendance upon the ordinances and social meetings of the Church.

(2) As to missions within the district, where new ones should be established, or what missions should be raised to circuits or stations.

(3) As to Sunday-schools, and the manner of conducting them, and to education generally.

(4) As to their financial systems, their contributions to Church-purposes, and the condition of houses of worship and parsonages.

(5) As to the manner in which the records of the Quarterly Conferences have been kept.

(6) To license proper persons to preach, and to renew their license annually, when, in its judgment, their gifts, grace, and usefulness will warrant the renewal.

(7) To take cognizance of all the local preachers in the district, and to inquire into the gifts, labors, and usefulness of each by name.

(8) To try, suspend, expel, or acquit any local preacher in the district, against whom charges may be brought.

(9) To recommend suitable candidates to the Annual Conference for deacon's or elder's orders in the local connection, and for admission on trial or reëdmission into the traveling connection; provided that no person shall be recommended to the Annual Conference for admission on trial, or ordination, without first passing in the District Conference an approved examination in the Course of Study prescribed by the Bishops for such candidates. All votes to license to preach, or to recommend preachers for admission on trial, or reëdmission into the traveling connection, or for deacon's or elder's orders, shall be taken by ballot. No recommendation from a District Conference to an Annual Conference shall be of any force after the session of the Annual Conference next following the grant of such recommendation.

(10) The District Conference shall elect annually by ballot, from the district, four delegates to the ensuing Annual Conference; provided that no member of the Annual Conference shall vote in said election.

(11) At these Conferences, prominence shall be given to religious exercises—such as preaching, prayer-meetings, love-feasts, and the administration of the sacraments.

Also, that Section IV. be made to conform to the above.

W. H. BROWNING.

Report No. 3 of the Committee on Revisal, after discussion, was postponed indefinitely. It is as follows:

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, REPORT NO. 3.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to report that they have duly considered a memorial from the Fayette District Conference of the Missouri Conference, a resolution by J. D. Shaw, Horace Bishop, and A. Davis, and those by R. N. Sledd and J. E. Edwards, and one by J. S. Gardner, J. H. H. Figgatt, and Rumsey Smithson, asking for changes in the service for the ministration of baptism to infant children, and respectfully recommend the following alterations:

1. In the rubric preceding the exhortation, on page 221, Section II., Chapter XIII., of the Discipline, after the word "the," insert the words, "people shall stand up, and the," and strike out the clause, "use the following, or some

other suitable exhortation," and after the word "water" add this, "shall say," so that the rubric as amended shall read as follows: "The people shall stand up, and the minister coming to the font, which is to be filled with pure water, shall say."

2. On page 22, Chapter XIII., Section II., strike out the exhortation beginning "Dearly beloved," etc., and insert the following: "Hear the words of the Gospel written by St. Mark in 10th chapter, verses 13-16: 'They brought young children to him that he should touch them; and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God. . . . Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, and put his hands upon them, and blessed them.'"

3. In the prayer beginning on page 221, Chapter XIII., Section II., strike out the words "wash him," the clause "being delivered from thy wrath," and the clause, "received into the ark of Christ's Church, and being," so that the prayer, as thus amended, shall read as follows: "Almighty and everlasting God, we beseech thee for thine infinite mercies that thou wilt look upon this child, and sanctify him with the Holy Ghost, that he may be steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, and may so pass the waves of this troublesome world that finally he may come to the land of everlasting life, there to reign with thee, world without end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

4. In the same prayer, in the paragraph beginning, "Almighty, ever-living God," page 223, Chapter XIII., Section II., strike out the words "out of" in the fourth, and the words "side both water and" in the fifth line; and in the first line, on page 224, substitute the word "this" for "they;" and in the sixth line strike out the words "and elect," so that the paragraph shall read as follows: "Almighty, ever-living God, whose most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed his most precious blood, and gave commandment to his disciples that they should go teach all nations, and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, regard, we beseech thee, the supplications of this congregation, and grant that this child, now to be baptized, may receive the fullness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

5. Strike out the rubric and the lesson from the Gospel of Mark, page 224, Chapter XIII., Section II.

P. A. PETERSON, Chairman.

H. V. PHILPOTT, Secretary.

The following reports were presented, laid on the table, under the rule, and never afterward called up:

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, REPORT NO. 5.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to report that they have considered a memorial from the Fayette District Conference, Missouri Conference, and several papers from other sources, asking that the form for the "ministration of baptism to such as are of riper years" be revised, and respectfully recommend the following changes:

1. In the exhortation, page 227, Section III., Chapter XIII., strike out the clause beginning with the word "men" in the second line, and ending with "God" in the

tenth line, and insert the following: "have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and need therefore the baptism of the Holy Ghost, of which water baptism is the emblem, and that our Saviour hath commanded his disciples to teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

2. Between the words "and" and "the," in the first line of page 228, insert "with;" and before "received," in the second line from top of same page, insert "being;" in the third line from top of same page strike out "and be made," and insert "may remain," so that the whole paragraph as amended shall read as follows: "Dearly beloved, forasmuch as all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and need therefore the baptism of the Holy Ghost, of which water baptism is the emblem, and that our Saviour hath commanded his disciples to teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: I beseech you to call upon God, the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous goodness he will grant to these persons that which by nature they cannot have: that they may be baptized with water, and with the Holy Ghost; and being received into Christ's holy Church, may remain lively members of the same."

3. In paragraph beginning "Almighty, ever-living God," etc., page 234, Section III., Chapter XIII., in the fourth line, strike out the words "out of;" and in the fifth line strike out the words "side both water and;" and in the next to the last line of the same paragraph, page 235, strike out the words "and elect," so that the paragraph as amended shall read as follows: "Almighty, ever-living God, whose most dearly beloved Son, Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed his most precious blood; and gave commandment to his disciples, that they should go teach all nations, and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: regard, we beseech thee, the supplications of this congregation; and grant that the persons now to be baptized may receive the fullness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

P. A. PETERSON, Chairman.

MINORITY REPORT.

We, a minority of the Committee on Revisal, agreeing in the main with Report No. 5 on Revisal, on "ministration of baptism," recommend the following slight change of phraseology in the Ritual, and differing from that recommended in said report, to wit:

1. On page 227, Section III., Chapter XIII., beginning on the last line of the page, that the following words—"that they be baptized with water and the Holy Ghost"—be so amended as to read, "that they, being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Ghost."

2. On page 228 of the same section and chapter, the "rubric" be amended by adding the words, "Let us pray," which will read, as amended, "Then shall the minister say, Let us pray."

Respectfully submitted.

R. SMITHSON,

C. C. MAYHEW,

J. H. McLEAN,

T. F. MANGUM.

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, REPORT NO. 6.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to report that they have duly considered a paper signed by J. D. Barbee, and one signed by John W. Portis, asking that

the Discipline be so amended as to specify dancing, attending theaters, etc., as coming under the head of diversions that cannot be taken in the name of the Lord Jesus, and recommend the following for the adoption of the Conference:

In answer 2 to question 1, Chapter VI., Section V., page 154, after the word "conduct" in the second line of said answer 2, insert the following clause, viz., "engaging in promiscuous dancing, either in its private or public exhibition, or visiting the theater, the opera, or circus," so that answer 2 to question 3 aforesaid shall read: "But in case of neglect of duties of any kind, imprudent conduct, engaging in promiscuous dancing, either in its private or public exhibition, or visiting the theater, the opera, or the circus, indulging in sinful tempers, or words, or disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church: first, let private reproof be given by a preacher, or leader; and if there be an acknowledgment of the fault, and promise of amendment, the person may be borne with; otherwise the preacher must take with him two or three faithful friends, who shall labor to bring the offender to proper repentance; but if he will not hear them, and there be no sign of amendment, the offender must be dealt with as in case of immorality."

P. A. PETERSON, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, REPORT NO. 7.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to report:

1. A memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Gainesville Station, Gainesville District, North Georgia Conference, asks that the Discipline be so amended as to provide that no certificate of Church-membership shall be granted except in case of removal from one pastoral charge to another; and that a member taking a certificate shall be held responsible to the Society receiving or granting said certificate for his conduct from date of his certificate. We recommend non-concurrence.

2. N. H. D. Wilson and R. T. Gray ask that the Bishops be empowered to appoint editors for religious papers that advocate the doctrines and polity of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, when requested to do so by an Annual Conference. Believing that such cases are fully provided for by existing laws, the committee recommend non-concurrence.

3. M. M. Pugh and T. M. Cobb ask for a change of the law relating to the composition of District Conferences so that recording stewards and Sunday-school superintendents shall be *ex officio* members thereof, and that the number of lay delegates shall be limited to two from each pastoral charge. We recommend non-concurrence.

4. E. A. Yates and L. S. Burkhead ask that the preacher in charge shall be *ex officio* chairman of the board of stewards. We recommend non-concurrence.

5. H. J. Adams and H. H. Parks ask that it be made the duty of the Bishops to preside in the District Conferences as far as practicable. Your committee, believing that no legislation on this subject is needed, recommend non-concurrence.

6. S. B. Watts and Irvin Miller ask that others than the preacher in charge be allowed to nominate to the Quarterly Conference Sunday-school superintendents. We recommend non-concurrence.

7. M. H. Neeley and W. H. Hughes ask that answer 4 to question 2, Section I., Chapter V., page 127 of the Discipline—which is as follows: "By often stopping short when the words are given out, and asking the people, 'Now, do you know

what you said last? Did you speak no more than you felt?"—be stricken out. We recommend non-concurrence.

8. W. L. C. Hunnicutt, C. B. Galloway, and S. B. Watts, ask that a question relating to the pastoral instruction of children be inserted in the order of business in Quarterly Conferences. We recommend non-concurrence.

9. W. L. C. Hunnicutt, C. B. Galloway, Irvin Miller, and S. B. Watts, ask that a prescribed form for stewards' reports to Quarterly Conferences be printed in the Appendix to the Discipline. We recommend non-concurrence.

10. H. P. Walker asks that ministers received from other denominations be required to pass an approved examination on the course of study prescribed for candidates for admission into full connection. We recommend non-concurrence.

11. H. C. Morrison, George R. Browder, W. S. Johnson, John A. Carter, B. M. Messick, S. W. Brents, and H. C. Settle, ask that the Committee on Revisal be requested to indicate in a report to this Conference what change, if any, should be made in the General Rules. We recommend non-concurrence.

Respectfully submitted.

P. A. PETERSON, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, REPORT NO. 9.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to report as follows:

1. W. S. Johnson and John A. Carter ask that it be made the duty of Joint Boards of Finance to receive and pay over to the Bishops the money collected for their support; and that they also be required to preserve a record of their transactions. We deem any further legislation on these subjects unnecessary, and recommend non-concurrence.

2. John E. Edwards and R. N. Sledd ask that the Discipline prescribe who shall be the chairman of the district stewards' meeting, or else how he shall be chosen. We deem it best to leave this question where it is, and therefore recommend non-concurrence.

3. H. J. Adams and W. A. Turner ask that Annual Conferences be required to sit one week, unless three-fourths vote to adjourn earlier. We recommend non-concurrence.

4. The same persons also ask that the reading out the appointments of the preachers by the Bishop on the Sabbath-day be forbidden. Your committee, believing that instances in which this has been done are exceptional, and that the circumstances rendered it necessary, would recommend non-concurrence.

5. Charles E. Brown, Horace Bishop, A. Davis, and William Price, ask that stewards be required to make assessments for the support of the ministry on the members of the Church, and that refusal to pay said assessments shall be dealt with as an immorality. We recommend non-concurrence.

6. O. R. Blue and J. B. McFerrin ask that the phrase "and relations" be restored as part of question 3, Section II., Chapter II., page 43 of the Discipline, for the reason that it was left out of the book without authority. We recommend non-concurrence.

7. E. B. Prettyman and J. S. Gardner ask for a certain change in the order of Quarterly Conference business. Believing that the object contemplated in the proposed change is secured by existing regulations, we recommend non-concurrence.

8. E. S. Smith, B. D. Orgain, J. T. Swearingen, and H. V. Philpott, ask that

the law relating to deacons and elders, who cease to travel without the consent of the Annual Conference, be so amended as to provide for the formal trial of such delinquents. Believing that the Discipline now provides for such a trial, your committee deem further legislation unnecessary.

9. A paper presented by E. A. Yates, L. S. Burkhead, and N. M. Lawrence, and one by N. H. D. Wilson and H. T. Hudson, asks that the Discipline be so amended as to require a special meeting of the official members, or Board of Stewards, to be held to perfect the financial and statistical report of their charge, to be presented to the Annual Conference, in case there was a failure to make up said report at the Fourth Quarterly Conference. We recommend non-concurrence.

10. A memorial from Lehi Quarterly Conference, Pine Bluff District, Little Rock Conference, asks that questions 1 and 2 in the order of Quarterly Conference business be stricken out. We recommend non-concurrence.

11. A paper signed by John E. Edwards and George M. Bain, one by W. L. C. Hunnicutt, S. B. Watts, and C. B. Galloway, and one by J. B. McGehee and J. S. Key, ask for sundry changes in the order of business in the Quarterly Conference. We believe the changes suggested would not be improvements, and we therefore recommend non-concurrence.

12. J. D. Barbee asks that the Presiding Elder only have the right to nominate the District Steward. We recommend non-concurrence.

13. A memorial from the Quarterly Conference of Trinity Charge, South Carolina Conference, asks that the traveling expenses of preachers be raised on a special assessment to be made for that purpose, to be collected by the stewards. Believing that the manner of raising the money for the object specified had better be left to the discretion of the Board of Stewards, we recommend non-concurrence.

14. W. W. Graham asks that a member of the Church refusing to give testimony, when required so to do, shall be dealt with as in the case of one charged with immorality. Believing that the law now amply provides for the punishment of such offenders, we recommend non-concurrence.

P. A. PETERSON, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, REPORT NO. 10.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to report as follows:

1. They have considered a paper presented by W. L. C. Hunnicutt, C. B. Galloway, and C. S. Stewart, one by Isaac Hardeman and J. W. Hinton, and one by N. Scarritt, asking that the Discipline be amended so as to make it designate what Conference is meant—whether General or Annual—in the parenthetical clause contained in paragraph 4, Section I., Chapter VIII., page 160, and recommend that the word “General” be inserted before “Conference” in said paragraph, so that it shall read thus: “The appellant shall either state personally, or by his representative (who shall be a member of the General Conference).”

2. B. F. Alexander, P. P. Ellis, and C. W. Carter, ask that answer 2 to question 3, Section II., Chapter III., page 71 of the Discipline, be amended so that it shall authorize a Bishop to appoint a preacher for a longer time than four years to institutions of learning not under the care of our Church. We recommend that said answer 2 be amended by striking out, at the bottom of page 71, the

clause "for a longer time than two years," so that the paragraph as amended shall read thus: "And also, when requested by an Annual Conference, to appoint a preacher to any seminary of learning not under our care."

3. A memorial from the Local Preachers' Conference for North Carolina asks that the law relating to the trial of local preachers, as it existed previous to the General Conference of 1878, be restored. We cannot recommend concurrence in the memorial as a whole, but we recommend that answer 1 to question 2, page 147, be amended by striking out the clause, "in the absence of a bill of charges signed by a member of our Church," so that the paragraph as amended shall read: "When a local preacher is under report of immorality, the preacher in charge shall appoint a committee of three members of the Church," etc.

4. T. S. Wade, J. W. Fitch, and H. C. Ireland, ask that the Discipline, Chapter IX., question 1, page 170, be amended so as to require each member of the Church to pay toward the support of the ministry. We recommend non-concurrence.

P. A. PETERSON, Chairman.

H. V. PHILPOTT, Secretary.

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, REPORT NO. 11.

The committee have considered the report of the Committee on the Trial of Ministers, of the last General Conference, referred to them, and also sundry papers on the same subject, and report for your adoption the following: Strike out, on pages 138 to 141, Section II., all of answer 1 to question 1, and answer 1 to question 2, and insert the following, so that it will read thus:

Question 1. To whom is a traveling preacher amenable for his conduct?

Answer. To the Annual Conference, which shall have power to try, acquit, suspend, or expel him, as herein provided.

Question 2. What shall be done when a traveling preacher is under report of immorality?

Answer 1. In the absence of a Bishop, let the Presiding Elder appoint three traveling preachers a committee to inquire into the case; and if they judge a trial necessary, they shall prepare a bill of charges and specifications; whereupon the Bishop, or Presiding Elder, shall appoint a committee of not less than five nor more than thirteen elders or deacons, who shall, under his presidency, constitute a committee to try the case.

2. The committee shall meet at or near the place where the alleged offense is said to have been committed; but if the presiding officer judge it expedient, and the accused consent, the trial may be had elsewhere.

3. If the alleged offense is said to have been committed beyond the bounds of the Conference of the accused, any Bishop or Presiding Elder, within whose bounds the offense may have been committed, shall have authority to proceed with the trial as before directed.

4. If the accused be a Presiding Elder, any three traveling elders or deacons of his district may inquire into the case, and, if they judge a trial necessary, shall report a bill of charges and specifications to the Bishop, who shall appoint a committee to try the case, as provided in the trial of traveling preachers. The Bishop shall preside, or appoint a traveling elder to preside, in the trial.

5. In all cases a copy of the charges and specifications shall be furnished the accused a sufficient time before the trial to prepare for his defense; and in all

trials the president of the committee shall appoint a member of the Annual Conference to prosecute the case. Also, he shall appoint a Secretary, who shall keep correct minutes of the trial and the testimony, which shall be signed by the President and Secretary, and forwarded to the next session of the Annual Conference of which he is a member; and the finding of the committee shall be recorded on the Journal of the Conference.

6. The accused shall have unlimited rights to challenge for *cause*; of the sufficiency of the cause the presiding officer shall judge.

7. If in any case the accused neglects or refuses to appear before the committee, the trial shall proceed as if he were present.

8. If the accused be convicted by two-thirds of the committee, they shall fix the penalty, and the president of the court shall pronounce him suspended or expelled as may be the findings of the committee.

9. When a committee of investigation has prepared a bill of charges and specifications, the accused shall not exercise the functions of his office till his case is finally determined.

On page 141, answer 2, after the words "prosecute it," fifth line from bottom of page, insert the words, "if the accused or prosecutor declare himself not ready for trial, his case shall be referred to a Presiding Elder for trial, according to the plan hereinbefore provided.

Strike out Sections I., and II., Chapter VII., pages 159 to 163, and insert the following—Chapter VII., Section I. Appeal of Preachers:

1. Each Annual Conference shall organize a Court of Appeals to hold their authority for a term of four years; the Conference shall fill all vacancies that may occur in the court from any cause.

2. This court shall consist of not less than five nor more than thirteen elders or deacons of the Conference, to be appointed by the Conference. This court shall be presided over by a Bishop, and shall have full power to try the cases, and their decision shall be final. The Bishops shall appoint a secretary to keep correct minutes of the trial, and deliver the same to the Annual Conference. The findings of the court shall be entered on the records of the Annual Conference at its next session. No new evidence shall be admitted on the appeal, but the court shall be governed by the record of the court below. Nevertheless, if the accused shall present to the Committee of Appeals a satisfactory showing that evidence has come to light which was not known on the trial of the case, or if evidence has become available for his use, which was not available on the trial, which will materially affect the case in favor of the appellant, the committee shall remand the case for a new hearing.

3. The appellant shall have free access to the records of the trial below to prepare his appeal; but the records shall not go out of the custody of the officer of the court having them in charge to deliver to the appellate court.

4. If the prosecutor in the trial below should not appear at the appellate court, the Bishop shall appoint a member of the Annual Conference to prosecute the case.

5. The appellate court shall have jurisdiction of all appeals of preachers, both traveling and local, and shall meet at such time and place as the Bishop shall appoint, of which due notice shall be given to all concerned.

6. No member of the appellate court shall serve on the committee of the first trial.

7. In all trials in our Church, the officer presiding is the judge of the law, but the application of the law is with the court trying the case.

8. In all cases of trial and appeal, the accused shall be allowed counsel, who shall be a member of the Annual Conference.

9. When an appeal has been allowed by the court, the appellant shall, either in person or by his representative, state the grounds of his appeal; the records in the trial below shall then be read; the accused shall make his defense without interruption; the prosecution shall be permitted to respond in the presence of the appellant, who shall be permitted to reply, which shall close the pleadings on both sides. This done, the prosecutor and appellant shall withdraw, and the court shall decide.

10. No minister after such forms of trial and expulsion, shall be restored to the communion of the Church without giving satisfactory evidence of repentance, unless the Annual Conference shall become convinced that he was innocent of the crime for which he was expelled; in which case the Conference may restore him to his former standing.

Strike out the last paragraph of answer to question 6, page 145, beginning "Nevertheless," and insert the following: "Nevertheless, in all cases of trial and conviction of a preacher, he shall be allowed an appeal to the appellate court, if he signify to the president of the court trying the case, at the time, or when he is informed thereof, his intention to appeal, and the grounds of his appeal."

On page 147, in answer to question 1, add the word "suspend" after the word "acquit," so that it will read, "which shall have power to acquit, suspend, or expel him." In answer 1 to question 2, same page, second line of answer, strike out the words "in the absence of a bill of charges signed by a member of our Church," so that it will read, "When a local preacher is under report of immorality, the preacher in charge shall appoint a committee," etc.

On page 151 in the last paragraph, beginning, "Nevertheless," strike out the word "ensuing," and insert "Court of Appeals of the," so that it will read, "an appeal to the Court of Appeals of the Annual Conference shall be allowed," etc.

P. A. PETERSON, Chairman.

H. V. PHILPOTT, Secretary.

The above report was laid over, under the rule.

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, REPORT NO. 13.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to report as follows:

1. Geo. R. Browder, B. M. Messick, and H. C. Morrison, ask that the Bishop be not allowed to transfer a Church, congregation, or society, from one pastoral charge to another without the consent of the District Conference, or of both the Quarterly Conferences to be affected by such change. We recommend non-concurrence.

2. A memorial from the Clarksville District Conference, Tennessee Conference, asks for a regulation that will make the method of appointing lay delegates to the Annual Conference uniform throughout the Connection. We recommend non-concurrence.

3. The same District Conference also asks that the order of business in the Quarterly Conference be so changed as to require that the statistical report made

to the Annual Conference should be reported to the first Quarterly Conference, instead of the statistical report for the Annual Conference being made up as now required at the fourth Quarterly Conference. We recommend non-concurrence.

4. The same District Conference asks that answer 5 to question 2, Chapter III., Section XVI., page 119, which provides for the election of a new board of trustees when two or more circuits or stations become united, be stricken from the Discipline. We recommend non-concurrence.

5. P. A. Peterson and R. N. Sledd ask that the Discipline be amended so as to require that a local preacher having a pastoral charge shall hold his Church-relation in said charge. Believing that this *is* now required by the Discipline, we deem further legislation on the subject unnecessary.

6. John H. McLain and R. Smithson ask that all the traveling preachers appointed to positions of duty and labor within the bounds of a Quarterly Conference shall be members of such Quarterly Conference, although they should belong to another Annual Conference. The Committee, believing that this is now provided for in the Discipline, deem it unnecessary to make any recommendation on the matter, except this: That the word "preachers," in the third line of the answer to question 1, page 55, be followed by a comma.

7. B. F. Alexander, P. P. Ellis, and C. W. Carter, ask that the words "receive" and "received," where they occur in answer 4 to question 3, page 72, and answer 3 to question 1, page 76, and answer 1 on page 85, in connection with the employing of preachers by Bishops and Presiding Elders, be stricken from the Discipline. We recommend non-concurrence.

P. A. PETERSON, Chairman.

H. V. PHILPOTT, Secretary.

The above report was laid over, under the rule.

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, REPORT NO. 14.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to report as follows:

1. They have considered a paper from Trinity Charge, South Carolina Conference, asking that the trustees of district property be made responsible to the District Conference; and one signed by W. T. Johnson, J. D. Shaw, and John A. Carter, asking that district trustees be empowered to dispose of district property, and recommend the following changes of Discipline: (1) Strike out answer 2 to question 1, Section XVI., page 117, and insert this: "2. Let all District Conference property be held by a Board of Trustees having the like qualifications as are now required for trustees of other Church-property, to be appointed by the District Conference, and to be amenable to said Conference for the faithful execution of their trust." (2) Insert as paragraph 3 (the present paragraph 3 to be numbered 4), Section IV., Chapter II., page 198, the following: "3. District trustees shall have authority to dispose of district property under the same restrictions governing the trustees of other Church-property—subject, however, to the approval of the Presiding Elder and the District Conference, instead of the preacher in charge and the Quarterly Conference."

2. A memorial from the North Carolina Conference and papers from other sources ask that some plan for effecting a division of Church-property be adopted by the General Conference. On this subject we recommend the following changes of Discipline, to wit: (1) In Section IV., Chapter II., page 198, insert as para-

graph 4 (the numbers of the other paragraphs to be changed to suit) the following: "4. When a circuit, station, or district is divided, the trustees of the parsonage property shall make an equitable division of the same, and if they cannot agree, they shall refer the matter to the Joint Board of Finance of the Annual Conference for adjustment." (2) In Section V., Chapter IX., page 177, insert as subparagraph "(6)" (the paragraphs which follow to be numbered 7 and 8), this: "(6) The Board shall adjust all claims of interest in Church and parsonage property growing out of a division of a district or pastoral charge, when referred to them."

3. Your committee would also recommend that in questions 12 and 13 the words "is doing" be stricken out, and the phrase "has been done" inserted, so that the questions shall read thus: "12. What has been done for the cause of Missions?" "13. What has been done for the cause of Education?"

4. We also recommend that in answer 3 to question 2, Chapter VI., Section V., page 157, strike out the clause "him who has charge of the circuit," and insert "the preacher in charge," so that the paragraph as amended shall read: "And if any member of our Church shall refuse, in cases of debts, or other disputes, to refer the matter to arbitration, when recommended by the preacher in charge."

P. A. PETERSON, Chairman.

H. V. PHILPOTT, Secretary.

The above report was laid over, under the rule.

The following is Report No. 8, relating to the proposed change in the name of the Church, and substituted by the resolution adopted on May 25. See page 174:

COMMITTEE ON REVISAL, REPORT NO. 8.

The Committee on Revisal beg leave to report that they have given patient and close consideration to divers memorials on the subject of a change in the name of our Church. One from the Neosho District Conference, one from the Leesington District Conference, one from the Walnut Street Quarterly Conference, one from the Washington Avenue Quarterly Conference, one from the Lydia Avenue Quarterly Conference, one from the Miami and Mt. Carmel Quarterly Conference—all of the South-west Missouri Conference; and also one from the Quarterly Conference, — Station, North Texas Conference. The committee recommend for adoption the following paper, to wit:

Whereas the word South, as affixed to our name, was the result of the plan of separation of 1844, and was designed to have simply a geographical meaning; and whereas the dividing line in said plan has long since been officially obliterated and ignored by both branches of the Church, thereby freeing us from any geographical limitation; and whereas this fact renders the aforesaid word, in its aforesaid geographical meaning, a misnomer; and whereas the opinion extensively prevails that the word "South" in our name has either a political or sectional meaning; and whereas this fact operates in many portions of our country as a serious hinderance to our work, and in many places almost utterly shuts the door of success against us; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we recommend the elimination of the word "South" from the name of our Church.

2. That we recommend a change in the order of the appellative words "Methodist" and "Episcopal," making the name "Episcopal Methodist Church."

3. That the above resolutions be submitted to all the Annual Conferences, to be acted on by them at their next ensuing sessions, and that their decision on the case be final.

P. A. PETERSON, Chairman.

The following report was presented on May 16, laid on the table, under the rule, and never called up afterward :

COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY, REPORT NO. 6.

1. The committee having considered the paper signed by William Price, Horace Bishop, and W. W. Treadwell, referred by the Conference, asking such action as will make the Presiding Elders of an Annual Conference the advisory council of the Bishops in stationing the preachers by statute law, recommend that the Conference do not concur in the request.

2. The committee have considered the paper signed by N. H. D. Wilson and W. C. Doub, asking certain changes in the language of the Discipline in reference to the matter of appeals, and recommend that the changes asked for be made as follows: On page 74, paragraph 7, strike out the words "of the Quarterly Conference," and let the paragraph read, "to hear and decide appeals on questions of law, when he shall be presiding in any Annual Conference," etc.

3. The committee also recommend a change in the language of the Discipline on page 77, in answer 5, by inserting after the word "appeal" the words "by the Quarterly Conference, or any minister or member of the Church whose personal rights may be affected by said decision." The answer, when thus altered, would read: "To decide all questions of law which may come up in the regular business of the Quarterly Conference, when submitted to him in writing, subject to an appeal by the Quarterly Conference, or any minister or member of the Church whose personal rights may be affected by said decision, to the President of the next Annual Conference; but in all such cases," etc.

Respectfully submitted.

W. W. BENNETT, Chairman.

The following report, in compliance with a resolution of the Conference (see page 100), was presented by the chairman, but required no action by the Conference:

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, REPORT NO. 9.

Your committee beg leave to report on the paper referred to us, regarding the state of the treasury of the Board of Missions, that after careful examination we find, at the close of the financial year ending April 1, 1881, the Treasurer had a small balance in favor of receipts; that at the close of the financial year ending April 1, 1882, the balance against the Board amounted to \$31,965.92. We find that by the first of November, 1882, the average date at which the drafts drawn against appropriations made May, 1881, will fall due, a sum of about \$54,742.01 will have to be paid in order to sustain our missionaries now in the field. There are, therefore, the most urgent reasons why collections should be vigorously pressed, and forwarded at the earliest possible date to the Treasurer of the Board. We see no reason why the debt should not be kept below \$50,000, until the meeting of the Annual Conferences in the autumn, at which time it will be extinguished, provided collections at all correspond with assessments made May, 1881.

It affords us pleasure to state that while the necessity for extended travel and

payment of interest on borrowed money has made the expenses of the Board, during the year just closed, larger than usual, when we reckon the per cent. gained by exchange in sending money to our foreign fields (it more than pays all the expenses of the Board), so that every dollar of the money paid by our people for missions reaches, in undiminished value, the missionaries in the field. This is a great change from the early years of our mission-work, when we had to discount our funds sent to China from twenty-two to twenty-seven per cent. Total expenses of Board, 1881-82, \$6,767.26; premium on funds sent to China and Central Mexico, average 10½ per cent., say \$5,726; premium on funds sent to Brazil, 34 per cent., say \$3,400; total, \$9,126; balance in favor of Board, \$2,358.74. We attach a table, made by a sub-committee appointed to examine the books of the Treasurer, which will fully answer all the questions of the paper referred to us by the General Conference.

Respectfully submitted.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

PAID TO MISSIONS, 1879-80.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| China..... | \$17,835 37 |
| Mexico..... | 12,576 00 |
| Border..... | 8,570 00 |
| Brazil..... | 4,347 03 |
| Indian Mission..... | 11,675 00 |
| German Mission..... | 4,768 75 |
| Florida Conference..... | 3,329 75 |
| Western Conference..... | 1,750 00 |
| Denver Conference..... | 2,000 00 |
| Montana Conference..... | 1,250 00 |
| Columbia Conference..... | 1,330 00 |
| Los Angeles Conference..... | 1,743 75 |
| Echota, in Holston Conference..... | 306 25 |
| Yuba City..... | 300 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$71,781 90 |
| Paid note..... | 5,000 00 |
| Remitted to Miss. Soc. from donors | 1,000 00 |
| Paid Secretary..... | 2,499 97 |
| Expenses..... | 2,173 75 |
| Bp. Keener's exp. to Pacific Coast.. | 300 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$83,756 62 |
| Balance on hand..... | \$5,326 28 |
| Received..... | 103,018 37 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$108,344 65 |

PAID TO MISSIONS, 1880-81.

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| China..... | \$15,867 86 |
| Central Mexican..... | 32,147 89 |
| Mexican Border..... | 14,500 00 |
| Brazil..... | 6,769 68 |
| Indian Mission..... | 7,666 15 |
| Echota Mission..... | 243 75 |
| German..... | 3,687 50 |
| Louisiana French..... | 1,050 00 |
| Florida Conference..... | 3,705 25 |
| Pacific Conference..... | 6,000 00 |
| Western Conference..... | 1,500 00 |
| Denver Conference..... | 2,797 50 |
| Montana Conference..... | 833 32 |
| Columbia Conference..... | 1,525 00 |
| Los Angeles..... | 2,103 15 |
| North-west Texas Conference..... | 1,812 50 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$101,609 55 |
| Secretary..... | 2,499 67 |
| Treasurer..... | 431 65 |
| Expenses..... | 2,476 03 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$107,016 90 |

PAID TO MISSIONS, 1881-82.

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| China..... | \$21,600 10 |
| Mexican Central..... | 41,465 08 |
| Mexican Border..... | 15,900 00 |
| Brazil..... | 11,167 42 |
| Indian Mission..... | 10,837 50 |
| Echota Mission..... | 250 00 |
| German Mission..... | 4,963 00 |
| Louisiana French..... | 618 98 |
| Florida Conference..... | 2,887 50 |
| Western Conference..... | 1,500 00 |
| Denver Conference..... | 4,257 50 |
| Montana Conference..... | 916 64 |
| Columbia Conference..... | 2,565 00 |
| Los Angeles Conference..... | 1,653 10 |
| North-west Texas Conference..... | 3,865 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$124,366 82 |
| Secretary..... | 2,292 41 |
| Treasurer..... | 388 35 |
| Contingent..... | 3,609 87 |
| Expenses..... | 3,879 26 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$134,546 71 |

AMOUNT DUE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Made May, 1881, and to be paid to the Missions on or before Nov. 1, 1882.

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| China..... | \$11,152 95 |
| Central Mexico..... | 1,252 44 |
| Mexican Border..... | 13,350 00 |
| Brazil..... | 1,136 53 |
| Indian Mission..... | 8,325 00 |
| German Mission..... | 3,787 50 |
| Florida Conference..... | 3,000 00 |
| Western Conference..... | 750 00 |
| Denver Conference..... | 5,200 00 |
| Montana Conference..... | 750 00 |
| Columbia Conference..... | 1,000 00 |
| Los Angeles Conference..... | 1,000 00 |
| North-west Texas Conference..... | 3,085 00 |
| Secretary..... | 207 59 |
| Treasurer..... | 705 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$54,742 01 |
| Debt..... | 31,965 92 |
| | <hr/> |
| Whole amount due to Nov. 1, 1882.. | \$86,707 93 |

COMMITTEE ON ITINERANCY.

The following is the minority report accompanying Report No. 5 of the Committee on Itinerancy. This report was laid on the table on May 24, and the majority report adopted. See page 154:

MINORITY REPORT.

We, the undersigned, constituting a large minority of the Committee on Itinerancy, present and voting at a meeting held on yesterday afternoon, May 10, at which the committee, by a small majority, voted "non-concurrence" on a motion to recommend that the Presiding Eldership should be limited to four years successively, beg leave to submit the following report for the adoption of the Conference, in lieu of the majority report, to wit:

Whereas the number of memorials and resolutions coming from various sources, asking that the limit of four years, successively, should be prescribed in the appointments of Presiding Elders, invests the subject with a gravity and importance that demands General Conference action, in open Conference; therefore,

Resolved, That the Discipline, Chapter III., on the Duty of Bishops, Section II., question 3, answer 3, on page 72, be so altered and amended as to read as follows: "To choose the Presiding Elders, fix their stations, and change them when he judges it necessary; provided he shall not allow any preacher so appointed to remain in the office of Presiding Elder more than four years successively."

It is the sense and wish of the signers of this report that, should it be the pleasure of the General Conference to adopt it, the law of limitation hereby enacted shall have no retrospective effect, and shall apply only to appointments made by the Bishops at, and after, the Conference sessions of 1883.

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| JOHN E. EDWARDS, | JOHN W. HANNER, |
| C. C. WOODS, | F. RICHARDSON, |
| F. H. WELCH, | E. H. MOORE, |
| JOHN D. VINCIL, | H. C. MORRISON. |

The following report was presented by H. F. Johnson, Chairman of the Committee on Bible Cause, on May 22. As the report made a change in the Discipline, if adopted, it was laid on the table, under the rule. On the same day the chairman asked, and obtained, leave to withdraw the report. It does not appear upon the Journal afterward. It is as follows:

COMMITTEE ON BIBLE CAUSE, REPORT NO. 2.

Your committee has had under consideration the paper referred to it, signed by George S. Savage, asking for more definite action as to the annual collection for the American Bible Society, and respectfully recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That we recommend to our pastors to give to their congregations annually, if practicable, the privilege of contributing to the American Bible Society; and they shall remit the moneys collected to the Society, or one of its auxiliaries, and report the amount to the Annual Conference.

Your committee also recommends that the following question be inserted in the Discipline, in the Order of Business of an Annual Conference, after question

29, on page 47, Chapter II., Section II., to be properly numbered by the Book Editor, namely: "What has been contributed for the Bible Cause?"

Respectfully submitted.

H. F. JOHNSON, Chairman.

The following paper was addressed to the Conference, read, and referred to the Committee on the Centenary of American Methodism:

To the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

DEAR BRETHREN:—Sixteen of the delegates of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to the Ecumenical Methodist Conference in London, united, as you are aware, with many representatives of other bodies, in signing a paper favoring the holding of "a commemorative centennial meeting in 1884, to be composed of representatives (clerical and lay) from all Methodist bodies in America." This paper was published by the American Methodist press, and it awakened a general desire that such a Conference should be held. On the part of the Methodist Episcopal Church an unofficial committee was constituted in New York, which held its third meeting May 3, 1882, having in session with it duly appointed representatives of many of the Annual Conferences and preachers'-meetings of our Church. We, thus assembled, have adopted an address to our Board of Bishops, requesting them to appoint a committee of twenty-five, empowered to correspond with similar committees of other bodies, and coöperate with them in making arrangements for the proposed Conference of 1884. Our Board of Bishops meets in Detroit on the 9th of May, and we have strong hopes that if your reverend body, following in the line of the commendatory resolutions adopted by your General Conference of 1878, will provide for the appointment of a committee to represent your Church, there will be a similar committee to confer with it. It seems to us very desirable that such committees should be constituted in June, if possible.

We believe that the proposed Conference would be of great service in drawing the members of our Methodist family closer together, in making each better acquainted with the history, struggles, and aims of the others; in promoting a true and healthful fraternal feeling, and in advancing the common interests of our Methodism and of evangelical Christianity.

Yours in the bonds of the gospel,

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| JAMES M. KING, Ch'n, | H. K. CARROLL, Sec., |
| F. S. HOYT, | R. D. ROBINSON, |
| C. S. FRENCH, | DANIEL CURRY, |
| GEORGE PRENTICE, | C. H. FOWLER, |
| JOHN KINLEY, | J. M. REID, |
| J. W. EATON, | S. F. UPSHAW, |
| JOHN B. CORNELL, | J. N. FITZGERALD, |
| JOHN W. HOYT, | JESSE L. HURLBUT, |
| J. B. GRAHAM, | M. D. C. CRAWFORD, |
| J. H. VINCENT, | G. R. CROOKS, |
| JAMES STRONG, | CLINTON B. FISK, |
| ALBERT S. HUNT, | O. H. TIFFANY, |
| J. M. BUCKLEY. | |

New York City, May 3, 1882.

The following reports of the Committee on Missions were presented, but no action is recorded:

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, REPORT NO. 4.

The Committee on Missions have had under consideration a paper signed by Anson West and S. H. Dent, recommending the insertion of certain words in Article XIII., Chapter X., Section I., pages 184, 185 of the Discipline, and recommend non-concurrence.

Also, a paper from the Board of Trustees and Stewards of Sacramento Station, Pacific Conference, asking an appropriation from the missionary treasury, and beg leave to return said paper to this Conference, and to ask its reference to the Board of Missions.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS, REPORT NO. 6.

We recommend that in such Conferences as are held by the Bishops they shall draw the drafts on the Treasurer of the Board of Missions for money appropriated to such Conferences, delivering the drafts falling due within the first quarter to the party or parties in whose favor they are drawn, and remit the remaining drafts to the Secretary of the Board of Missions, whose duty it shall be to forward them in their order to the parties in whose favor they are drawn, only after receipt of the report that the work for which the previous drafts were drawn has been performed—thereby securing to the missionary a support while he is in the discharge of his work, and at the same time procure to the Board of Missions knowledge of the work being done, and how done, and prevent the use of the drafts before the time at which they are intended to be negotiated.

D. C. KELLEY, Chairman.

The following telegram was received on the morning of May 26, 1882, after the adjournment of the General Conference. It is a reply to the fraternal message sent from Nashville. See page 137:

PRESBYTERIAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AT ATLANTA.

"The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, in session at Atlanta, Ga., May 26, most cordially reciprocate the fraternal greetings of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in session at Nashville, Tenn. Romans xii. 4, 5."

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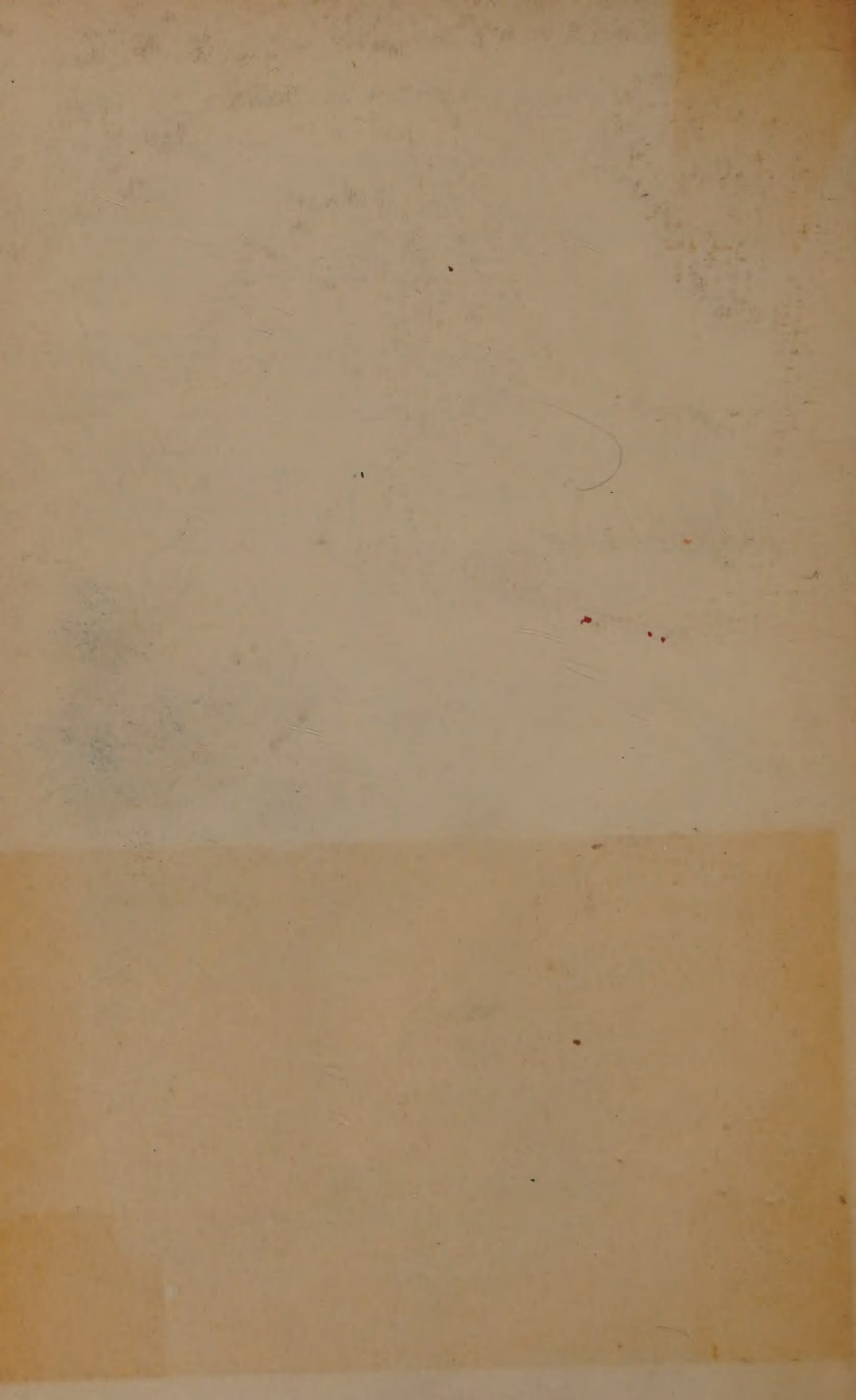
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